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B-190

FIREPROOF

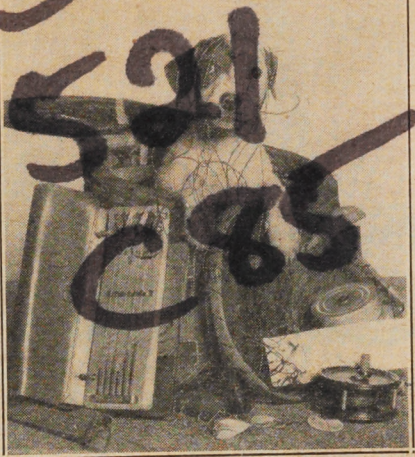
**Johns-Manville**

*Asbestos*

**BUILDING MATERIALS**

THREE DAY LOAN

GENERAL SCIENCE



[Photo by H. Armstrong Roberts.]

# THE Country GUIDE

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Vol. 69, #2, 1950 February 1950

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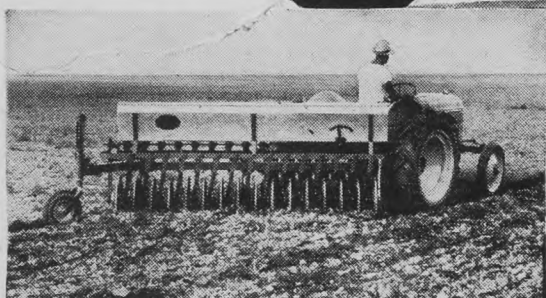
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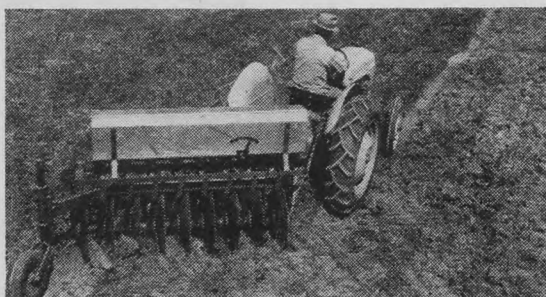


# The FORD TRACTOR *handles large farms*



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This 9-foot one-way is highly recommended for anchored trash farming. Is semi-mounted, operated by the Ford Tractor's Hydraulic Touch Control, with 8-inch clearance of discs when raised on caster wheel. Seed box (sold separately) has approx. 9 bus. capacity.



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The Ford Tractor is amazingly low priced for the work it gets done, and it does that work at low cost per unit of production. That's because it is specially designed to give you highly efficient delivery of power through specially designed, matched Dearborn Implements.

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**Ford Farming**  
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# Under The Peace Tower

WHEN Guy Sylvestre, private secretary to Prime Minister St. Laurent, was moved into a high government post the other day, it was another sign of the times. Bluntly, Canada had shut out French-speaking Canadians from high civil service posts almost completely in recent years. At one time, near the end of the war, there were 19 English-speaking ministers, and precisely no French-speaking deputies. Since a deputy minister's post is the highest salaried job within the gift of the government in the public service, and since the emolument may reach as high as \$17,500, such an appointment is much coveted.

But before you rush to condemn the government for making such one-sided appointments, let us pause and see how all this happened. First and foremost, those in Quebec who go on for higher education all too often seek out the law or the church. Thus, the brightest boys for ten generations or more have headed for these goals. The result has been that very few have trained themselves for business, even fewer have considered the civil service as a career. Indeed, in earlier times, both with French and English-speaking persons, no training was necessary. You ran as a Liberal or a Conservative candidate, and if you got beaten, and your party got elected, you were given a job. We got more than one deputy minister that way, in our time.

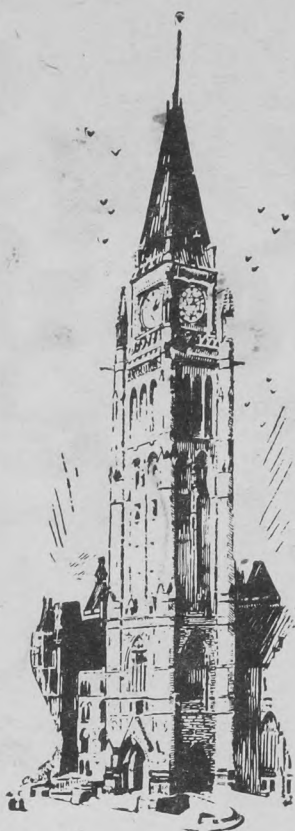
Nowadays however, we appoint deputies on the merit system. It is true we often have to go far afield to get them. Once we reached all the way to Mexico City to get Canadian Ambassador Hugh Keenleyside to take over the deputyship of Mines and Resources. Again, we have gone to Vancouver and Toronto for such recruits. But no one these days gets the nod because he votes right. This excludes hopeful politicians of any race, who can "take a dive" in a hopeless election campaign, and come up with a \$10,000 job.

I checked with an editor in *Le Droit*, French language paper in Ottawa, to see what they considered to be the percentage of French-speaking Canadians in Canada. The reply was twenty-eight per cent.

All in all, let us say there are 20 government departments at this writing. The way they are scrambling them around these days, I am not sure how many we might have by the time this gets to the reader.

It would then mean that if the French-speaking Canadians get their just share of jobs, they should get 28 per cent of 20 deputy ministerships, which works out to five and six-tenths. Therefore, we should have five deputies at least who are of French origin, and six at the most.

THE government has been working hard to make up this original 19-0 score in favor of the English-speaking Canadians. The first vacancy occurred when in a double shuffle, Dr. Ephraim H. Coleman, CMG and former Under-Secretary of State, was sent to Cuba as Minister Plenipotentiary, while Charles Stein, formerly in the Department of Justice, became the new Under-Secretary, who ranks as a deputy. Mr. Stein, by the way, is



French-speaking, and pronounces his name "Stane." Nor were there any less involved manoeuvres in moving the veteran Ted Edwards around, to make room for J. C. Lessard, formerly of Montreal, who became Deputy Transport Minister. In all justice to all concerned, Mr. Edwards was due to retire, and no feelings were hurt.

Next, Marc Boyer, former engineer of Montreal, was made deputy of the new Department of Mines and Technical Surveys. Then the other day Col. Laval Fortier, former commissioner of overseas immigration, was made new deputy of Citizenship and Immigration. That gives us four. We shall doubtless see another appointed in due course to make the minimum of five. Whether we can squeeze in another *Canadien* (that's the way a French Canadian describes himself) will depend on circumstances. If the French-speaking multiply more rapidly they'll get him. If they don't, they won't.

There are two others who rank as deputy ministers. One is the King's Printer, Edmond Cloutier, former editor of *Le Droit*. But next it will be an English-speaking Canadian's turn.

Also, the new Clerk of the House of Commons is French-speaking, and he too has a deputy's rank and salary. But the Senate Clerk is English, he being Clare Moyer, who used to be a reporter in the old Regina press gallery many years ago. This then, adds up to nothing, or rather, one cancels out the other and there will be no net gain in French appointees.

Of more than casual interest is the fact that our Supreme Court of Canada is headed by a French-speaking Canadian, Chief Justice Thibault Rinfret. Again, it will be an English-speaking justice's turn next time.

This may be an interesting development in the second half of the 20th century. If the English gain faster than the French, then French-speaking representation in the high jobs will dwindle. But if the French gain more rapidly than the English, then British justice demands they get the posts to which they are entitled.



## Meet the master of a difficult art!

THIS man is constantly "putting himself in other people's shoes" in order to see their problems from their viewpoint.

Doing this is an important part of his job. And he's so expert at it that he can easily make several of these quick changes in a single day.

With a middle-aged business man, for instance, he may be discussing ways and means of adding to a retirement fund. Right from the start, he will look at the facts in terms of that man's situation.

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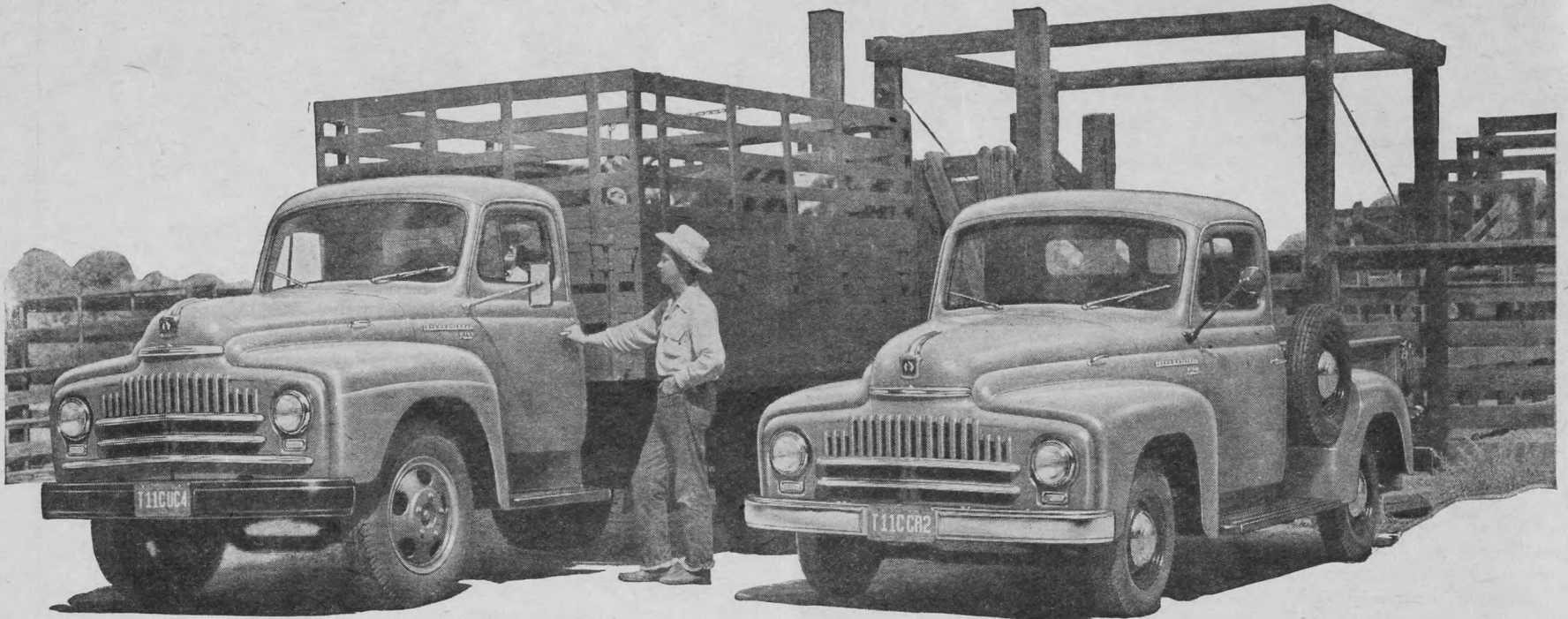
When your agent sells you life insurance, he also helps to improve your community. For a large part of each life insurance dollar is put to work, through investments, to build schools, bridges, highways, industrial plants and many other projects that create jobs and make for better living. You share in these improvements, made possible through the efforts of your helpful fellow-citizen — the modern life insurance agent!



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# **INTERNATIONAL TRUCKS**

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*Loading milk cans for the Toronto market.*

**F**OR many years now, most countries in which agriculture is an important industry have been coming gradually to realize the existence of what is often called "the farm problem." Occasionally this problem becomes very acute; for example, immediately following World War I, and also during the thirties. During World War II it was more or less submerged in the general problem of winning the war. Since V-E Day it has been lurking in the background, but is now re-emerging, to plague farm organizations, legislators and, more particularly, the farmer himself, with its complexities, uncertainties and difficulties.

We have this problem in Canada in especially aggravated form. Not only are we an important producer of farm products, but our population is so small in relation to our total producing area that we must export from a quarter to two-fifths of all the farm products we grow. This simple fact makes it extremely difficult for governments, and especially the Federal government—whose responsibility for agriculture is primarily in the field of marketing—to handle its responsibilities in a manner satisfactory to everyone. In times of emergency, such as war, farm prices have a way of lagging behind other prices for a time, and then shooting up above other prices. They are, however, first to decline, while at the same time farm costs remain relatively high.

**W**E can always learn something from other people. In this matter, however, the United States and Great Britain, with whom we are most closely connected, possess agricultural industries which operate under entirely different conditions from our own. We must, therefore, be very careful in exercising our judgment as to what we may profitably learn from them.

Great Britain is normally the world's greatest importer of foodstuffs. She has about 300,000 farms in a country of 50 million people. Her government is now faced, for example, with a very grave problem, namely that of finding dollars with which to pay for imported food and other products as well. She can, therefore, justify on the grounds of economy, favorable prices to home producers for as long as two or more years in advance. For Canada to adopt forward pricing of this type would be ruinous, except as we are able to make long-term contracts at firm prices, or enter into international agreements such as the International Wheat Agreement. These methods, as long as they are open to a country like Canada, offer an approach to security and stability for the farmer, and are, therefore, to be commended in principle.

Next in marketing importance is a fairly ready market in a prosperous and populous country such as

# Framework for Farm Policy



*Harvesting west of Treherne, Man.*

*After ten uncertain war and postwar years it is time Canadian farm policy is placed by Parliament within a sound framework of principle and objective*

by H. S. FRY



*Canada's Minister of Agriculture, Rt. Hon. J. G. Gardiner.*



*An Alberta feed lot.*

the United States, which is near at hand and does not involve heavy transportation costs. Unfortunately for Canada, the United States market has not been any too dependable up to the present time, notwithstanding that our real surplus of any one product, except wheat, would not make a very heavy impression on total U.S. consumption. Obviously, however, Canada could hardly apply many details of U.S. farm policy, when these have been developed for a country with a population of 150 million, who normally export no more than nine per cent of total farm production.

**I**N most industrialized countries, the standard of living of the people tends to be relatively high, and agriculture relatively efficient. In all such countries agriculture experiences somewhat similar disabilities and handicaps.

These disabilities of agriculture in the modern world are very real. They are economic, political and social. Each farmer, for example, operates in an area of relatively free competition. He produces what he sees fit to the extent that he himself decides, within the limits of his farm. He does not combine with others to decide what each shall produce, nor does he agree with others as to what price each shall charge. In areas dominated by urban industry, which exhibits many features of monopoly, he is handicapped by the fact that his individual business is only one of a very large number of quite small units of production. Some U.S. farm economists consider this to be the main justification for a national farm policy: if the state cannot appreciably reduce the tendency toward monopoly in business, to what extent may it legitimately assist agriculture to adjust itself to this twentieth century situation?

It is characteristic of farming, also, that the farmer's production varies from year to year, as the result of climatic and other influences beyond his control. At the same time his effort and costs remain much the same from year to year, regardless of output. The result is that the prices of his products fluctuate considerably, as do his costs per unit of production, whereas his input shows very little variation. In this, agriculture differs from industry, which characteristically maintains its prices at more nearly constant levels and varies its output according to demand.

Under such conditions, stability of prices and a feeling of security are impossible for the farmer to achieve by his own efforts. Even if he combines with many other farmers producing similar products and markets them co-operatively, he is still only able, at best, to average out the price variations within a single crop year. He cannot

*In a fighting speech in defense of the food contracts.*

(Turn to page 72)

In this opening chapter of a new and thrilling three-part serial, Arnold Spaulding sets out on a long, hard patrol in the north. He has made up his mind to carry his purpose through, and in lone secrecy if he must



# The Sergeant of Lone Cree

EIGHT hours after leaving the Police post half a hundred miles south, Sergeant Arnold Spaulding was unbuckling his snowshoes at the door of the Fullerton trading station.

He turned to his team of huskies, speaking to them as one might speak to comrades.

"We can't unhitch. We're stopping here just a minute. Better lie down; rest while you've got a chance. There'll be little enough resting on the job ahead of us."

As he stood his racquets against the split logs of the station, he glanced up at the sombre heavens, reading the weather. The pall of leaden clouds had grown darker all that day. A north wind, savage and raw at thirty below, whined through the surrounding forest of Keewatin spruce, and sent snow-eddies dancing and swirling like wraiths across the clearing.

It was not yet three o'clock, but the early mid-winter twilight was deepening into night. Down by the river bank, in the shadowy undergrowth of willow and deer-bush, snowshoe rabbits already were playing a fearful hide-and-seek with snowy owls that drifted through the purpling spruces overhead.

The six huskies, especially their great black leader, looked at Spaulding in quizzical surprise. To stop here only a brief while—that was astonishing! Night was coming on. They had done two days' travel in eight swift hours. Surely even their master, the tireless one, must be tired.

And there was another puzzle stranger still. Always before when he visited this trading post, he had untoggled them and stayed several hours at least; and they had been petted and pampered by a black-haired girl and allowed to sleep in the warm kitchen—because they were *his* dogs.

A FEW yards from the door Spaulding noticed a *komatik* up-ended against the fur press. Near the sled were several little mounds of snow where a team of huskies had burrowed down in the warm fluff and gone to sleep.

He saw at a glance that the *komatik* belonged to the Reverend Charles Norrys. A dozen times since leaving Lone Cree he had thought of Norrys.

It was rare that Spaulding desired or needed company on a patrol, but he wanted it now. And of all men, he wanted Charles Norrys to be with him on what lay ahead. To meet the Anglican missionary here was a stroke of providential luck, like an answer to an unvoiced wish.

He stepped inside the squat, spreading fort. A goose-tallow candle burning on the counter cast flickering shadows over the shelves of trade goods, against the low rafters hung with wooden pails, upon the moose hides carpeting the floor.

At the huge, pot-bellied stove in the middle of the room a solitary figure dozed in a chair. Stepping closer, Spaulding recognized Gabriel Perrault, a French-Cree *meti*. With his wife and three *p'tites*, Perrault lived in a cabin at the clearing edge and helped Aurore watch after the post when Lem Fullerton was out trading among the Indians.

He was a gentle, stove-side soul—Gabriel Perrault; content to trap a little, to run his sturgeon nets in summer, to smoke and doze his life away. But like many a mild man, he had courage when need be; and he was protection for Aurore when bush-sneak breeds or insolent Cree sub-chiefs came in from the Strong Woods and hung around the lonely post, ogling her with hungry eyes.

Tossing his parka and gauntlets and heavy fur coat upon the counter, Spaulding stood there for a long moment, thinking swiftly. Norrys would go along if asked, and Norrys would betray no secrets.

The candle-gleam was full on Spaulding's face, lighting up the cold, grey eyes, the firm-set jaw, the purposive stern lines of his features. He was tall, hard of muscle, lean of build—with the efficient leanness of a wolf. His hair, roaching back in splendid, boyish waves, belied the sternness about him. His voice—gentle and sympathetic when he spoke to the tired huskies—belied it too. And more than once Charles Norrys, looking deep into those cold eyes, had guessed at that rare quality of self-sacrifice, of taking the burden of others upon his shoulders, that was bedrock in Spaulding's nature.

Well-educated, in the prime of his late twenties, ruling his territory with a strong, masterly hand, Spaulding was officer material. Three years ago he had been sent to Lone Cree post as O.C. there.

Before he came, the district, a huge block of wilderness reaching up almost to the Barren Grounds, had been a worry and a bugbear to the Police. Quarrels among the Indians, quarrels among the traders, quarrels between traders and Indians—a constant foment that more than once developed into feuds and bloodshed.

THE Police had never yet established themselves firmly in the saddle there. Spaulding came to Lone Cree as a sort of bronco-buster. With tact and firmness he had broken the territory, subdued its unruly spirit, stamped out lawlessness. Save for a couple of instances it was peaceful as a Border district now, and any capable sergeant could take over the reins.

As a reward of those three years, his commission was even then on its way to him; and at the spring break-up he was slated for transfer, to command a coveted post on the Athabaska.

The news had given Spaulding sheer surprise. He was proud of achieving his inspectorship so young, proud of commanding the Athabaska district. But then treading on the heels of that news, came word from another source—a message that staggered him, and sent him out on this lone-handed patrol.

"Perrault!"

The *meti* awoke from his doze. At the sight of the tall sergeant he sat up with a jerk.

"Where is all the world?" Spaulding asked, in bush French.

"Mam'selle Aurore is there," Perrault answered, indicating a door that led to the kitchen. "M'sieur le Reverend is asleep in that side room. He came in but a few hours ago from a long—"

"And Lem Fullerton, *le facteur*, is out trading, *ne pas?*"

"Oui, M'sieur Sergeant. He is *en derouine*. Westward, to the Thunder Hills. Shall I perhaps unhitch your—"

"No! Feed them, if you will. Put moccasins on them too; I will strike jagged lake ice on the trip ahead. And that white chest marked with the *croix rouge*—fetch it in from my *komatik*. Very carefully, Perrault; it is precious as a hundred lives."

Norrys could not understand how Spaulding, for all his powerful body, could break trail day after day, eighteen hours at a stretch.



Picking up the candle, he stepped into the side room without knocking, and drew a chair close to the bunk. Norrys stirred and woke at the hand on his shoulder; and sat up hastily when he recognized his serious-faced visitor.

In his three years' acquaintance with Norrys, Spaulding's esteem for the missionary had steadily deepened into abiding friendship. He himself had small use for religion as such; his religion was his work and just dealings with other people. For many of the missionaries he had met, he had a dislike bordering on contempt. But not for Norrys.

THERE was no taint of hypocrisy in Norrys' devout belief; no threadbare, hashed and rehashed platitudes in his wilderness sermons. To him, high-minded and scornful of quackery in God's work, it would have been abomination to buy "conversions" at five dollars a head, as some of his brethren did—to make a good showing with the home board.

There was a strain of profound mysticism in Norrys. He walked as one who saw God's hand in everything and witnessed daily miracles. And yet he was very human, very practical. His parish, lying westward in the Thunder Hills country, was big as a small state; but by canoe in summer, by dog team in winter, he covered it thoroughly, carrying his message directly to the Indian teepee, speaking to the Crees in their own tongue, fishing and hunting and laughing with them, and always practicing himself, more than he preached to others.

Because Norrys so seldom presumed to give judgment on any moral question, Spaulding valued his judgment all the higher. Hours before, during his swift trip from Lone Cree to Fullerton Station, he had made up his mind, and had decided to carry his purpose through in lone secrecy if need be. But Norrys' company on part of the patrol would strengthen his hand; and Norrys' assent to the rest of his grim job would be a needed solace.

"What kind of a patrol this time, Spaulding?" Norrys asked, after their greeting. "Or don't you

need official reasons to come visiting up this way?"

In his purposeful fashion Spaulding went straight to the point.

"We've got an outbreak of smallpox east of here, Norrys. Couple of cases occurred last fall. I clamped down a hard-and-fast quarantine. Restricted the disease to one small district. Sent Dick Fullerton and two constables over there to look after things. But it broke out and it's spreading west."

Norrys was instantly wide awake, listening intently to the dread news.

"It's confluent smallpox—worst kind," Spaulding continued. "Bad enough among whites, but with dark-skinned races it's a deadly scourge. It'll wipe out every camp it hits. If it ever gets west of here into the Thunder Hills, it'll sweep clear to McMurray. The only way to head it off is wholesale vaccination. That's the patrol I'm on—or part of it."

Norrys glanced up quickly.

"Part of it?" he echoed. "If that's only part of it, for heaven's sake what is the rest?"

Spaulding chose his words carefully.

"I'll tell you the rest when and if I have to. It's my hope that I may never have to."

NORRYS looked at him sharply, in astonishment. A dozen questions shot into his mind. But something in Spaulding's tone warned him not to pry. If Spaulding was silent, there were good reasons for that silence.

He thought for a few moments, wondering what Spaulding wanted of him.

"Why didn't Doc Morrissey come along?" he asked. "Didn't want him. He can't stand weather like this. But you and I can, I guess. I'd like for you to go with me."

"If I can be of any help, of course!"

"You can. We'll start right away. I'd like to see Aurore a few minutes while you're getting ready. Perrault will help you hitch up. We don't dare waste time. The days are short, we'll have to travel partly by night. I brought an electric lantern. These storms will slow us down. Ordinarily it is a ten-day trip, where we're going; but it'll take us a month or better now."

He drew an imaginary map on the coverlet and went on tersely, pointing with his finger.

by WILLIAM BYRON MOWERY

Illustrated by Clarence Tillenius

"You don't know the country east. I'll explain. Here's Fullerton post, where we are now. Over there, two hundred and sixty miles east of us, is Lac aux Mouffettes, where Corporal Fullerton and two constables are stationed. This big oval-shaped region in between is a huge tamarack swamp, a tangle of lakes and muskeg and criss-cross rivers. It's a good trapping ground—mink, beaver, rats and marten. That's why this east country is thick dotted with Cree and Chippewyan camps. That's why the disease will spread like wildfire.

"The Indians camp along the north shore in the heavy woods, and tail their fur-paths out into the tamarack swamp. We'll follow the north shore, search out the bands and vaccinate them. The scourge hasn't made much headway yet, hasn't reached any of the big camps. It's my hope to beat it. We'll be racing against time—"

Norrys reached for his clothes as Spaulding got up. He was thoroughly aware that hours were precious, thoroughly alive to the peril threatening the Indian bands along the muskeg shore.

It seemed to him that he and Spaulding would not be facing time, but *Death*.

At the door leading into the kitchen, Spaulding knocked. Getting no answer, he turned the knob.

Because of the savage wind kicking over the building and the birch wood crackling cheerily in the cooking stove, Aurore Fullerton did not even then hear him. For several moments she was entirely unaware of his presence. He stood in the doorway, one hand still on the knob, loathe to disturb the picture he saw.

Quiet, happy, peaceful—it seemed another world from the lowering gloom outside and the gloom of his own thoughts.

At a table Aurore was cutting out cookies—quaint figures of bird and fish and animal—for the three *p'tites* of Gabriel Perrault. She was wearing a simple gingham dress; her arms bare, a dab of flour on her cheek, her dark-brown hair flung carelessly back over her shoulders and loosely gathered by a ribbon.

To the left of the kitchen a door led into her father's room. To the right the door into her own bedroom stood ajar. Spaulding could see the crude dresser which Perrault had made for her, the colored magazine prints she had tacked on the bleak log walls, the flimsy curtains of the tiny window, her bunk spread with white blankets, her gown hanging on a peg, some treasures of this and that dear to a girlish heart; and dearest of all, his own picture on a shelf beside some books, as though she wanted him to keep watch over her when she was asleep.

She was humming, while she worked, some soft *chanson* of love, all unconscious that Spaulding himself was listening. He felt as though he were violating something sacred by his silence.

"Dear!"

She turned, saw him. A second of wide-eyed astonishment; a swift-mounting, rosy flush of joy. Then she came to him, frankly, unabashed, with a little cry of gladness at the mere sight of him. Spaulding slipped his arm around her slender waist and held her close as she stood on tiptoe to kiss him.

"You're nearly frozen, darling!" she was saying a little later. "Your lips and your cheeks,"—she put her small hands to his face—"they're as cold as ice."

THOUGH he smiled at her solicitude, Spaulding's thoughts were of something else. He was looking down into her eyes. They were steady and innocent eyes, dark-brown, dark-lashed, limpid as sunlit pools—an index to her sensitive, deep-feeling nature. In them Spaulding had often read her unreserved happiness in her love for him; but he knew that profound tragedy could sit in them as well.

"But where's Dick?" she asked, glancing past him. "Didn't he come with you, Arnold?"

Dick Fullerton was her brother, and Spaulding's closest friend on earth. Three years ago he had left his father's trading station and joined the Mounted; and under Spaulding's brotherly guidance had swiftly risen to corporality, with splendid prospects on ahead.

In more than physical resemblance Dick and Aurore were much alike; both of them keenly alive; vigorous of body, sensitive, idealistic. Both of them—brother and younger sister—looked upon him and brought him their troubles, because he was older and far more experienced than they. Dick was self-educated, but on his meagre salary he had sent Aurore to the Outside school for a couple of seasons. It was indeed through Dick that Spaulding had come to know Aurore.

His relationship with brother and sister was a source of profound satisfaction to Spaulding. To it he had pinned his happiness. But like all deep emotion, this relationship was fraught with potentialities of a tragedy. Where there is no love, there can be no pain; and the deeper the love, the more crushing is a disaster to it. Until this morning Spaulding had never thought it possible that anything could rise up, threatening to sweep his passionate love for Aurore

(Turn to page 52)

# The Peace of O-hoo

by KERRY WOOD

Illustrated by J. H. Petrie

HERE in this cave you can read the pictures that tell the lame one's story. This was O-hoo's medicine place; he came here to seek guidance from Kitche-manitoo, the Great Spirit.

But at first he came here to feel sorry. He had a twisted leg; he could not dance around the Sun Pole. The Pole is erected during the Moon when birds lay eggs. Thongs are strung from the high stick and tied to wooden pegs driven into the young men's flesh at breast and back. They dance to the sacred drum, proving their manhood.

Mia-Gun had become a man. Mia-Gun, the Wolf, a strong young man who was the leader of the new braves. Mia-Gun became a warrior, but O-hoo, the Owl, did not. O-hoo was the lame one who loved the Laughing Maiden, called Pa-pee.

She was the daughter of the chief. A pretty one, with a band of white doeskin decorated with glossy red quills bound around her black hair. Slim as the silver birch, Pa-pee, with rounded woman-flesh making her newly desirable in the eyes of the young men.

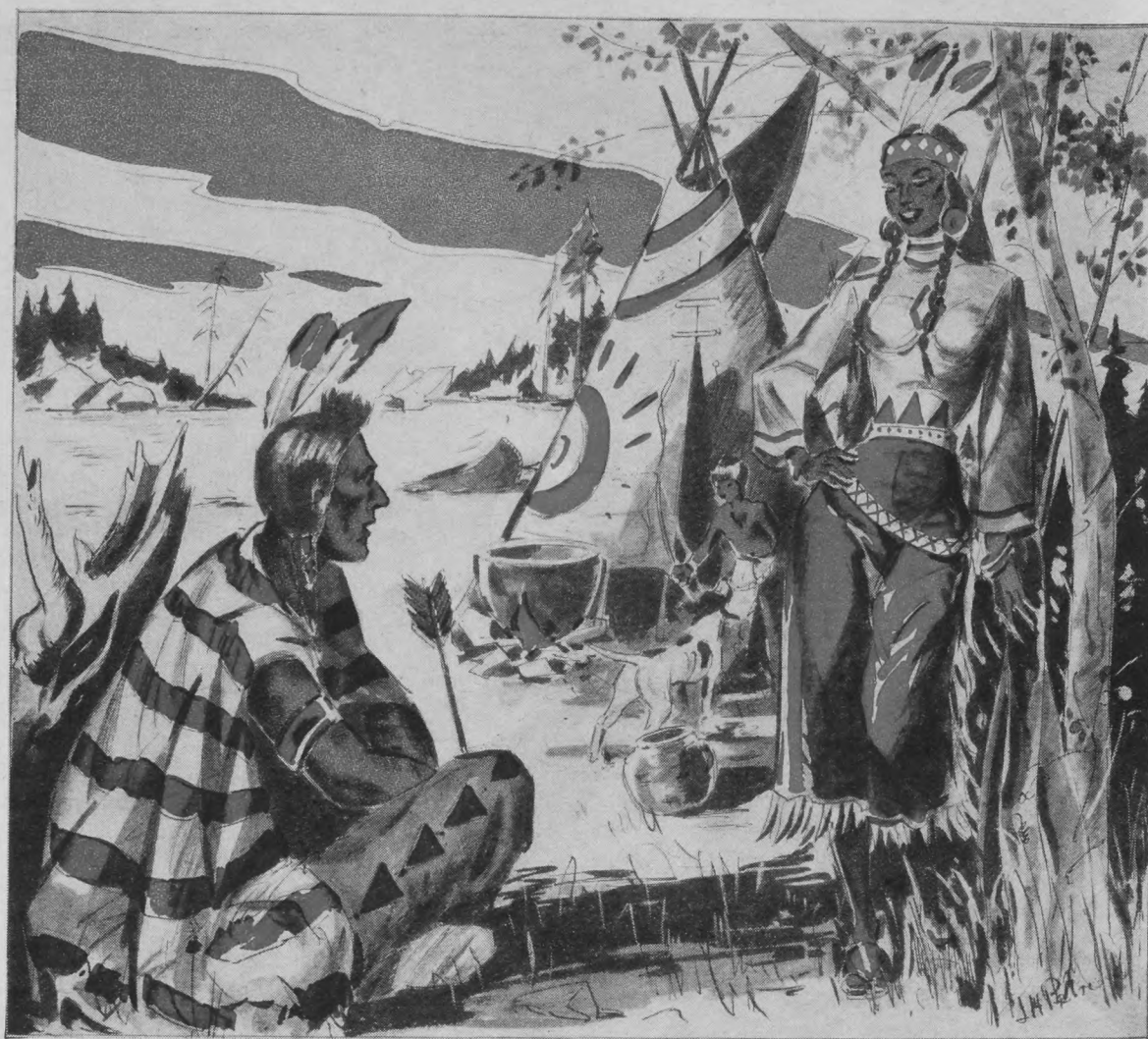
"Speak no heart-words to me," Pa-pee told the lame one. "I am Okima's daughter, and I will only marry a great warrior."

Then she turned quickly away from him towards Mia-Gun. In all the tribe there was no girl as proud as Pa-pee, the Laughing One. She knew from looking in the quiet pools that no other maiden was as beautiful. Perhaps that was why O-hoo did not take hurt at her spurning. He was a frail young man, but his love was of great strength. It had to be, to endure the maiden's mocking laughter, the taunts of her friends whom she told about the cripple's marriage plea. Worst of all was the coarse joking of Mia-Gun, the strong fighter who brought in five scalps from his first war raid.

Mia-Gun had no woman in his teepee, as yet. He looked upon Pa-pee with desire in his eyes. The maiden smiled when she walked near him, her face shining with eager happiness at his approval.

This is how it was in those early times, when they were young.

O-hoo went often to his cave. There he could be alone, forgetting his twisted leg that prevented



The maiden smiled when she walked near him.

him from dancing the Man Dance around the Sun Pole and becoming a warrior.

"But I have no wish to kill," he murmured, screening the wishes of his life in lonely meditation. "Even if I were as the others and could become a brave, I would not want to go out and kill enemies. Because—

Why are they my enemies? How have they hurt me?"

Since boyhood, he had not been able to play the war games with his companions. Only sick youths were slow enough to go with O-hoo, who had always been lame. And so, because of his own

sufferings and because his close friends were ill ones, O-hoo became interested in ailments and ailing things. Often he brought a wounded bird to his mother's tent, tending it until it was well. Sometimes he begged his father to spare an animal, still alive and struggling in a trap. O-hoo would hold it gently in his hands, making soothing talk to quiet its fears, then he would splint the shattered bones and wash the sore places with warm water in which saskatoon bark had been boiled. Finally, the sick boys and maids of his own age became his patients, too.

Mus-ka-kee, the medicine man, had been amused when he first heard about this. Then the tribal doctor talked to the boy and learned how he made his small cures. The wise old drum-beater did not scoff; he took the youth to his teepee and showed him how to powder the roots of certain plants. He told the young one many medicine secrets about red willow and moccasin flower, and at last he gave O-hoo meat to eat that was cooked from the carcass of a mother-dog. This was part of the ceremony of making a new medicine man, but O-hoo, the Owl, always wanted to know the reason behind the ancient customs.

Sometimes Mus-ka-kee frowned and said: "This is how it has always been. There is no other reason."

O-hoo always argued, when no meaning could be given. He condemned the wordless chants and mysterious drum-beatings.

But the old medicine-doctor insisted there was wisdom in this.

"The patient must believe in the medicine, else it will not cure," Mus-ka-kee explained. "If the people think we

are no different from themselves, would they send for us when they become ill? That is why we use chants and beat the tom-tom in a different way. That is why we throw animal hairs into the fire and crush the scented leaves to tickle the nostrils. Sometimes we must fool them in little things, so they will listen to us when the time comes to work a big cure."

O-HOO was impatient of this foo-faw, always joking about the charms that were part of the medicine man's stock in trade.

Mus-ka-kee said: "Perhaps you would like a love charm, yourself? This I would gladly give you. But no charm can make the Laughing Maid, our chief's only child, look with love into your eyes. I tell you this in kindness, Friend O-hoo. You are but half a man, being lame, and should be content with less than the best. Find happiness with another maid who is not so proud and beautiful."

O-hoo would limp out to his cave, after words like those. He would sit there at the hidden entrance, screened behind the wild roses. Below him a creeklet flowed, dancing down the sloping ravine to the far-off river. Birds sang from the trees growing on its banks, and sometimes wild animals came to feed there and drink. O-hoo watched the springtime grow and knew that his love for Pa-pee could not change.

It might have been different, had the Laughing Maid gone to another's teepee and ended the lame one's dream.

But Mia-Gun did not take her to be his wife. This he could have done, without trouble. Pa-pee was ready for marriage, while everyone knew that Mia-Gun was the finest warrior of all the young men and a suitable match. Willingly would the Laughing Maid have gone to his blanket. All he had to say was: Come!

Why did he not say it? So lovely a maiden was never in that tribe before, and she was Okima's daughter, the chief's favorite flower. Mia-Gun would one day be a chief himself. Everybody believed that to be true. But it would surely help to be joined to the old chief by the marriage tie.

Yet he did not take that comely maiden. Instead, Mia-Gun made stronger bows and better arrows. He raced his horses with the other young men. He learned war chants from the men who had dry scalps hanging on their

(Turn to page 58)



*The charter of the High River Credit Union handed to its president, Mrs. Elsie MacLeod, by a representative of the provincial government back in 1940.*

# PIN MONEY *put to work*

**"T**HIS is the last straw; let's do something about it."

The ladies were seated in the chapel of the undertaking parlors. The room was dimly lit and except for their own voices it was quiet, too quiet. The air was scented with a heavy, pervading perfume, reminding them forcibly of the solemn character of the premises.

These ladies were members of the High River Pioneer Credit Union, the only all-women's credit union in the world, and this was their regular monthly meeting. But this last meeting place was altogether too dolorous for this energetic, active group of intelligent women. What was needed was a place of their own.

So somebody made a motion and they went out and bought a building.

This was 1942. The building they bought was a decrepit run-down two-storey structure. There had been a store on the ground floor and some rooms upstairs, but it hadn't been used for some time. They paid \$1,400.00 for the building and their husbands told them they were crazy. They spent another \$1,300.00 renovating the place and the husbands made up for their scepticism by pitching in and helping spend it. All the work was done on a volunteer basis. Credit union members from High River, Cayley and other districts pitched in. The men did the heavy work and gave lots of advice. The women did the painting, cleaning up, janitoring and provided hot meals.

And the decrepit-looking building came to life.

A few partitions, lots of paint, curtains and shutters, equipment for a neat little kitchen, some nice furniture and they had a home for their credit union. True, the Salvation Army used it temporarily while seeking other quarters, the I.O.D.E. rented it for their meetings, the Rotary Club met there weekly, the Christian Science Church still uses it on Sundays for their services. The community as a whole has now built a fine community centre, but until recently a good part of the community was using the Credit Union Hall. But it belonged to the women and they wouldn't take many thousands of dollars for it.

It was in this building that the ladies met to make decisions which affected so many of the lives of the people in the district. For remember! The building was simply a meeting place. It was the decisions they made, and are still making, that are important.

**I** SHOULD explain here that a credit union is in effect a people's bank. A group of people having some kind of common bond do some studying to acquaint themselves with the mechanics of a credit union. A comprehensive list of books and pamphlets is available in every library and all provincial governments are equipped to explain and assist the movement. Once a group understands the fundamentals, it can apply for a provincial charter and they are in

business. Any group of people, whether it be a farm community or a district in a city, the members of a labor union or the employees of an office staff, a group of fishermen, or men engaged in the lumber industry, men in a factory or members of a police or fire department, any such group can obtain a charter.

Once having obtained a charter they can start to operate. The idea is not new; it is over a hundred years old. The purpose is to create a central fund so that in time of emergency any member may draw on it. It makes cash buyers of its members. It supplies money for productive purposes and merchandise loans. In short, it is a source of credit open to the man of modest means just as other organizations are a source of credit for industry and business.

**I**TS operation is simple. The members of a credit union deposit money in the credit union regularly. Small amounts are encouraged, anything from 25 cents up. The important thing is to do it regularly. First of all it teaches people to save. From these funds a credit committee appointed from the members receives requests for loans for various purposes: provident purposes, merchandise purposes or productive purposes. While security is sometimes required, the essence of these loans is that they are made on character rather than concrete security. The experience of years has proven that this is the best and surest kind of security.

There is a reserve for bad loans out of earnings, but losses have been infinitesimal. A reasonable rate of interest is charged and dividends and interest are paid on deposits.

It has been found through the experience of credit unions that most of the credit needs of any group or community can be supplied through this method of pooling their resources. It works. It encourages thrift. It takes away the fear which the average isolated person has for the need of money in an emergency. Employees welcome it. Banks are not averse to it. And credit union lore is full of the amazing results obtained by it.

There is the case of Beth Laycraft of High River who wanted to train as a nurse but had no resources of her own. The ladies of the credit union financed that young lady through her nursing course and then through a post-graduate course at the University of Alberta. The result? That young lady was the only resident nurse in the Hines Creek district for two years, and as there was no doctor in the district, the administration of health and the care of the sick rested on the slim shoulders of that charming young lady. Her sojourn at Hines Creek is a saga of the district, a heart-warming story in itself, deserving of more time and space than I can take here to relate. It was made possible by the Pioneer Women's Credit Union.

Take the case of Edna Bryan, a young school teacher in a northern Alberta town. She had been a member of this credit union (Turn to page 56)

*High River is famous for several things—not least for having the only all-women's credit union in the world*

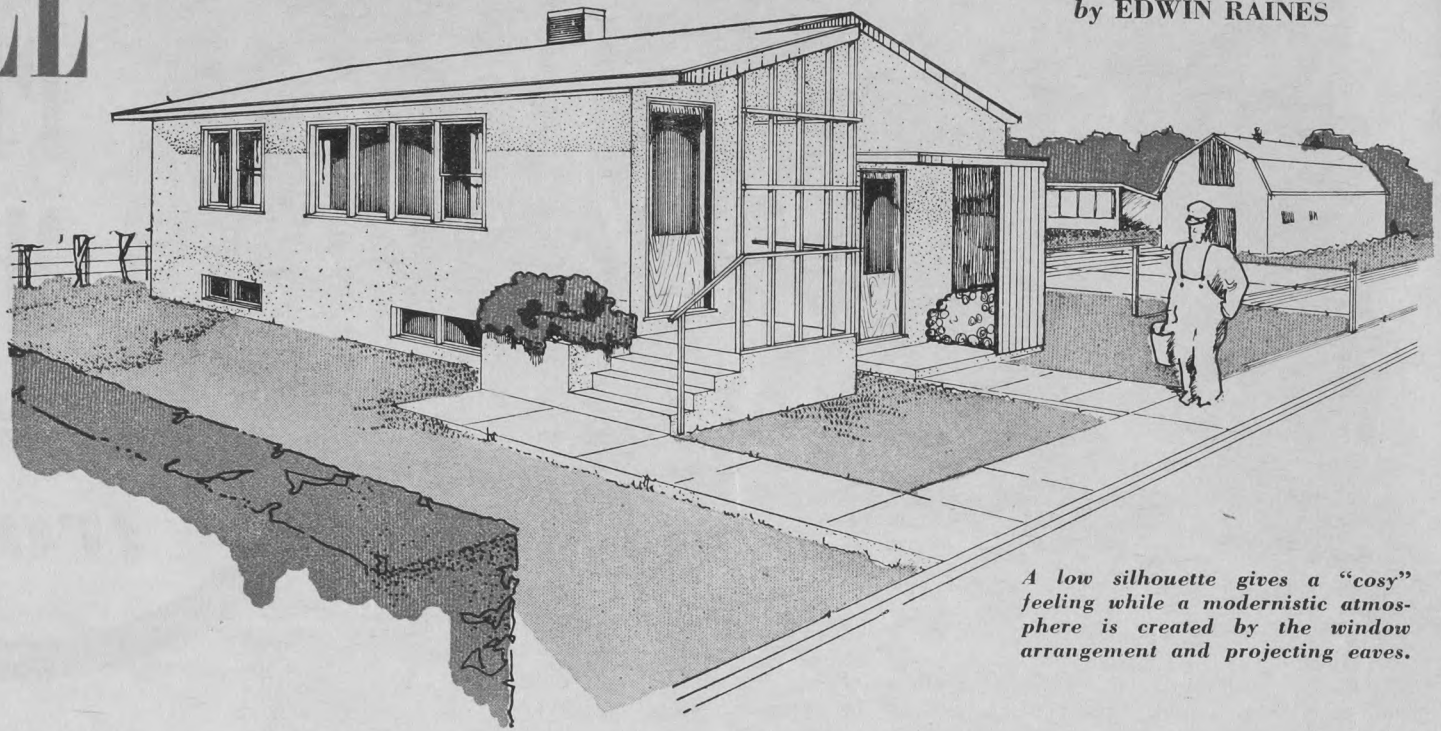
by  
**H. F. FRANCIS**

*The building acquired by the High River Credit Union and refashioned to serve many community purposes.*

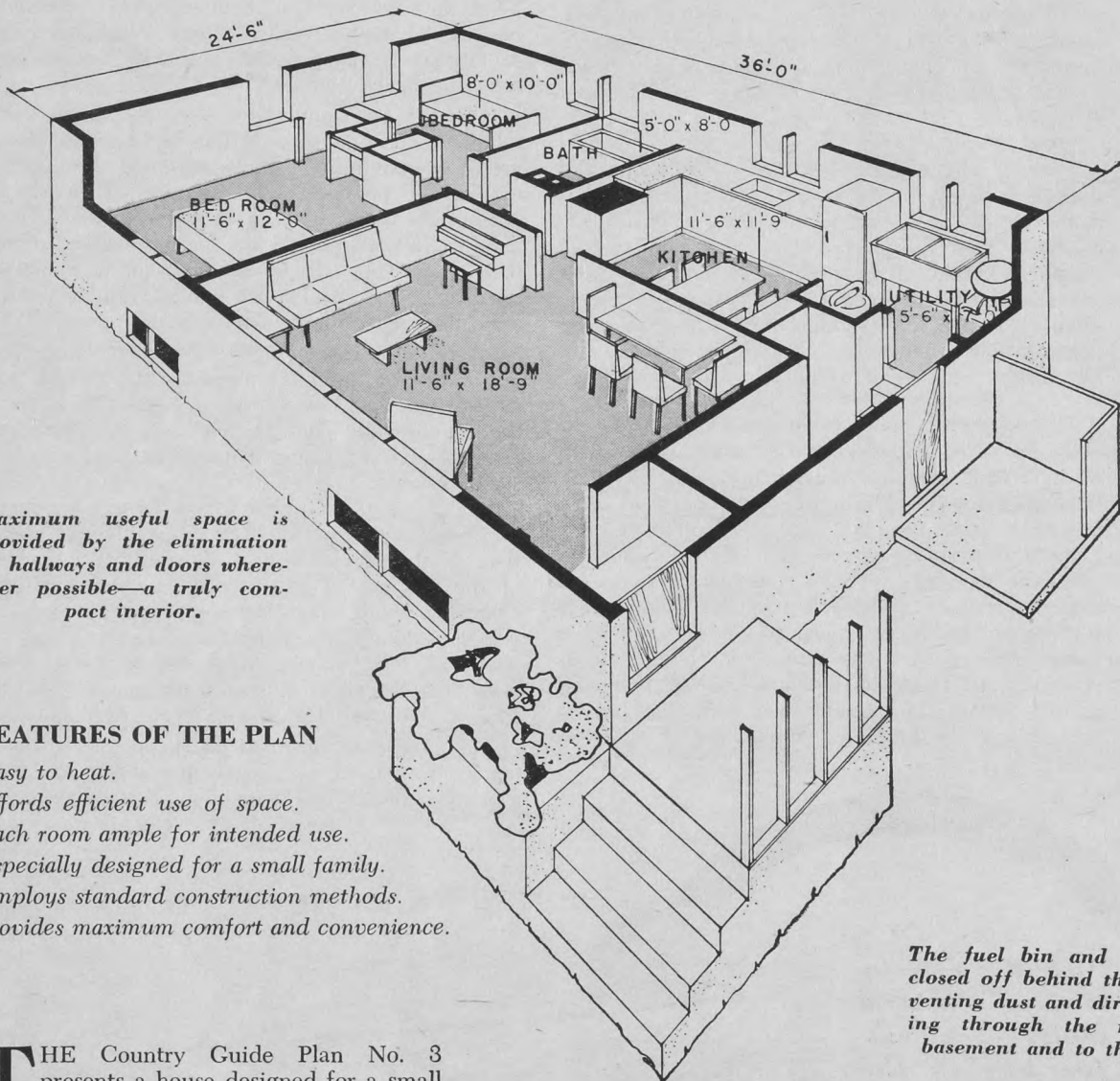


# A SMALL FARM HOUSE

by EDWIN RAINES



*A low silhouette gives a "cosy" feeling while a modernistic atmosphere is created by the window arrangement and projecting eaves.*



*Maximum useful space is provided by the elimination of hallways and doors wherever possible—a truly compact interior.*

## FEATURES OF THE PLAN

- Easy to heat.*
- Affords efficient use of space.*
- Each room ample for intended use.*
- Especially designed for a small family.*
- Employs standard construction methods.*
- Provides maximum comfort and convenience.*

**T**HE Country Guide Plan No. 3 presents a house designed for a small farm family. Its over-all dimensions are 24'-6" x 36'-0". Its structure is basically simple and straightforward. A man, who has some knowledge of construction and skill as a carpenter, could build it with a minimum of assistance from skilled tradesmen. Skilled help may be required in: setting the windows, doors, interior fittings and in installing plumbing, heating and electrical systems.

The design is simple and unpretentious. It is frankly a small-family dwelling for a farm. As such, it will meet the requirements of many farmers. A careful study of the floor plan will show that every available square foot of space is well utilized to meet the needs of a small family. It affords the maximum of comfort and convenience. Notice that the two items, stairway to base-

ment, and hall, giving direct access to each room, which usually cut into valuable floor space, are well designed. There is little criss-crossing of traffic lanes in going from any one room to another.

Each room is ample in size for its intended use. The spacious living room makes for gracious living and will serve many purposes. There is generous window area along one wall. There is a good expanse of unbroken wall against which furnishings may be arranged. The windows are so placed that low pieces of furniture may be set below them. In such a room there may be a choice of several groupings—a point which should find favor with the woman of the house. The perspective plan shown gives a suggestion for three groupings of

furniture: a conversation group surrounding the chesterfield; a piano or radio-phonograph; and table and chairs suitable for dining, study or games.

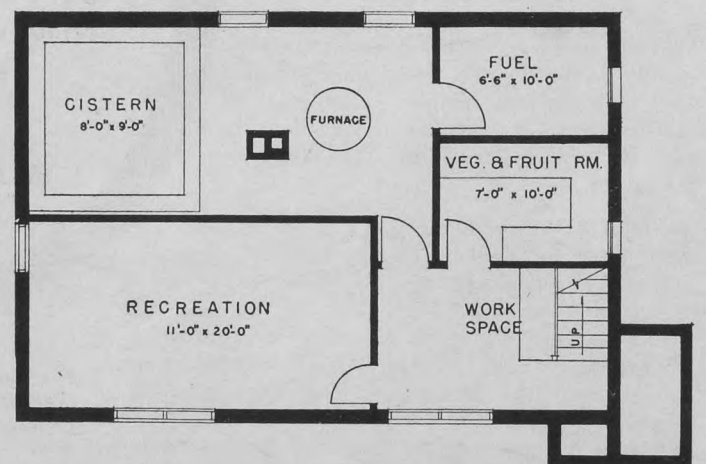
The size and placement of windows have been studied in detail to give both the best possible light and ventilation and to give an attractive appearance to the exterior of the house. They are of standard design and will not add either to expense or difficulty of construction. Note that the placing of windows and doors will afford good cross-ventilation, a point important at all times, but especially so on sultry summer nights.

**T**HE two bedrooms are designed with adequate clothes closet space and for built-in dressers, which is an economy both in space and furnishings. A linen closet off the end of the hall provides additional storage space. The master bedroom is 11'-6" x 12'-0" and the small bedroom is 8'-0" x 10'-0". Both comply with the minimum requirements for sleeping areas set forth under the National Housing Act. The bathroom, off the hall, is of standard size.

In this house we see a compact work area in adjoining kitchen and utility room. It provides for all the necessary facilities and makes for economy in steps and energy required in carrying out household tasks connected with the preparation of meals, handling supplies, washing up or doing the weekly wash. The range, sink, cabinets and refrigerator are fitted into a convenient "L"-shaped arrangement. Provision is made for a coal or wood stove. The woodbox could be made a pull-out type, set on casters and fitted under the work counter. The table placed along one wall provides a dining place or extra work surface as desired.

In an effort to make full use of every square foot of floor space, the utility room is an alcove which connects the kitchen with the back entry. In the plan it is shown to contain built-in laundry tubs, space for a cream (Turn to page 39)

*The fuel bin and furnace are closed off behind the door, preventing dust and dirt from flowing through the rest of the basement and to the stairway.*



# We Could Grow Rapeseed Oil

*The soils and climate of the prairies are suitable but farmers have yet to be satisfied that the production of edible oil in temperate climates is economically sound*

by FRASER SYMINGTON



Red River Valley soybeans.

WITH new wells blowing in all over Alberta, the prophets of press and barber shop are probably justified when they herald the coming of the golden age, wherein oil and industry will cushion the shock of depression or wheat glut to the western economy.

There is little doubt that western crude will cause great and desirable changes, but there is another, less spectacular oil that could do much for the western farmer. That is rapeseed oil.

A lowly forage plant could, during the next decade, turn the western wheatland into a vast oil field, where hundreds of millions of pounds of oil would be produced each year for the bakeshops, tables and industries of Canada and the world.

Consider the possibilities of rape. Based on the average yield for 1948, one acre of rape will produce 420 pounds of oil that is suitable for margarine, shortening, or use in industry. In addition there will be 780 pounds of fairly palatable high-protein oil-cake.

Rape could be of considerable importance to western agriculture. Due to a deliberate government edible-oil policy—or lack of policy—and the conservatism of the processing industry, rape may not have the chance to become the second big cash crop of the West.

It is true that during the past decade rapeseed production has risen from practically zero to 96 million pounds, and that each of the 80,000 acres sown produced seed valued at \$72. It is true that rape will grow anywhere that wheat will, and that it can be handled efficiently with ordinary machinery from seeding to the end of harvest.

In a dry year rape will mature, and grow to sufficient height for easy combining, but the yield will be poor. For best results it requires a fairly fine seed bed which must be firm, to permit shallow seeding. Also, it requires as much moisture if not more than oats and barley. For these reasons it should be sown on summerfallow. However, it is not as hard on the land as wheat. Grain crops following rape will be better than those following wheat.

The data seem to indicate that rape could be an important crop in many areas, but there are a dozen factors to consider before suggesting that a new cash crop era has dawned, and that every farmer should plunge into rape.

In 1936 China and India together used 7,700 million pounds of rape oil for food. The mainstay of the German housewife during the last years of

World War II was a sort of margarine or shortening made from rape oil. However, on the North American continent rapeseed oil has been used for industrial purposes only.

FOOD manufacturers and processors have shied away from rapeseed oil for three reasons. Even when made into margarine or shortening, hot-pressed or solvent-extracted rape oil has a greenish tinge the consumer does not like. Secondly, products made from rape oil tend to lose their flavor during long periods of storage. However, soybean oil does the same, and yet it has become popular with processors. Lastly, bakers find that bread and cake dough made with ordinary commercial shortening bakes up into a larger volume than dough made with rape oil shortenings.

Plant breeders are working on new lines of rape. As well as trying to increase the yield and oil content, they hope to develop varieties that will make oil and shortenings with a stable flavor in storage. Work is being done under W. J. White at the Dominion Forage Crops Laboratory at Saskatoon and under T. M. Stevenson at the Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa. To date Black Argentine rape has been the main one used by the western grower.

The breeder's success or failure does not mean life or death to the economic future of rape, however. In

the laboratories of the National Research Council the potential value of rape oil has been recognized, and oil scientists have met the problems of poor color, flavor reversion and low baking volume.

National Research Council scientists Grace, Lips and Zuckerman have evolved a method of processing rape oil to produce a shortening that compares favorably, in most respects, with commercial shortenings. The process can be carried out in an ordinary plant, at no greater cost than in processing soybean or cottonseed oil.

THUS we arrive at an illogical situation. There is not a shadow of doubt that rape oil could be produced in Canada at prices that could compete with normal world prices. Further, it could be utilized by commercially sound processes to meet the demand for food oils; a demand that has increased tremendously with the lifting of the restrictions on margarine manufacture. However, manufacturers of shortenings, margarine and salad oils have been slow to adopt the new techniques for the use of rape oil when they can get unlimited quantities of corn, cottonseed and soybean oil from the United States.

To date there are only two edible-oil extracting plants on the prairies; one for extracting rapeseed oil at Moose Jaw and one for sunflower



Sunflowers at the Morden Station.

seed at Altona. In addition the Co-op plant at Saskatoon could be used for rape, and there is a plant at Fort William that will handle either rape or mustard seed. There is no custom plant for the hardening of oil to make margarine or shortening.

Whether there will be processing plants in the near future depends on the baker and the manufacturer of margarine and shortening. If and when they begin to use rape oil there will be plants, and a good-sized domestic market for rape will open at once. If rape gets a foothold in the domestic market for edible oils, it is quite possible that a major boom will occur. It is estimated that margarine and shortening consumed in Canada approached the 100 million pounds mark in 1949. Rapeseed oil could fill part of this demand.

Whether rape will get its chance, or be forgotten in the West, depends largely on the attitude of the West itself toward government protection. It is the opinion of some of Canada's foremost agriculturists and edible-oil scientists that rape will get its foothold in western agriculture only if the government insists that margarine and shortening contain a certain percentage of domestic oil. A couple of them cite 25 per cent as a logical figure. The adoption of such a measure would be a form of government protection. In the past the West has been reluctant to promote any agricultural enterprise which depended on protection. However, it appears that if the West and the country as a whole is to benefit from rape, the West will have to break with its long tradition. Without protection rape, as an important crop, will die in infancy.

INDUSTRY could use crude rape oil to a greater extent than it now does. Currently it is used mainly as a component to special lubricants. It could be used, if available in sufficient quantity, to quench steel plate, in core-moulding, in the manufacture of tinplate and the like. The plastics industry provides a great potential market, because rape oil can be used in the manufacture of varnish, paint, printing ink, oil cloth and patent leather, to name a few items.

However, the chief use of rape oil will be as a food, and it is only on this basis that it can become important in the West.

In this consideration it might be well to look at the world situation in fats and oils, to try to forecast possible markets, or on the other hand, possible competition.

(Turn to page 35)



Vegetable oil production must eventually compete with the industry of millions like this Chinese farmer or persuade fellow Canadians to afford protection.

# DINGO

by PAUL ANNIXTER

*Worried sheep ranchers scoffed at Ken Crombie's faith in his training of Sheila, a tame dingo, as a clever decoy for marauding Australian wild dogs. So the bet was on and the men waited.*

THE time was ripe now. For four days Sheila had been meticulously coached on all the lessons she must master to bring this key assignment to a successful *finis*. Now all was smoothly integrated into the system she had been taught so carefully since her puphood. The scent of Big Reddy was familiar to her nostrils. The location and all the details of the pit trap that had been so craftily constructed below the paddocks were vivid in her memory. Many times she had made the jump across the patch of earth and stones that camouflaged its collapsible lid. When she made it a final time, at night, Big Reddy would be running behind her—to his death.

Already Sheila had three noteworthy renegades to her credit. In her role of Delilah she had toiled in the famous Old Crip, Club Foot and the Petermann Ghost, for she was the cleverest decoy Ken Crombie had ever trained. But in spite of this, back at Oodnadatta, the "dog capital" of Australia, the Dingo Destruction Board frowned on her. Officially, the idea of a trained dingo was not recognized by the Board.

BORN and raised in the back-bush, Ken had gotten his idea of training dingoes from the natives. Since childhood he had seen the black fellas using tame dingoes in their hunting and tracking. His three coups with Sheila had strengthened his growing confidence, but from the start this assignment at Coolibah Station in the northern outback had been the most difficult he had ever undertaken.

Here Sheila and her master found themselves in the midst of hereditary dingo haters, sheep men of the back country who had spent their lives warring against dingoes and had never heard of a tame one; to whom the only good dingo was a dead dingo. Added to this, Coolibah was riding out a drought. In six months no drop of rain had fallen. Each day sheep were dying, their heads toward the dried-up billabongs, and the tempers of the men were brittle from prolonged stress.

Sheila had felt the antipathy here in every sensitive nerve and hair-tip and Ken Crombie had endured the ribbing of all the shearers as well as Dell Bannister, owner of the station.

"Decoy—my ruddy oath!" sneered Ned Ollin, the hulking top shearer, looking Sheila over. "I suppose this sneaking bitch of your goes out and gives Big Reddy the eye and breaks his heart for him."

"Something like that," admitted Ken Crombie, hanging onto his temper. "She's already familiar with Reddy's scent. She'll follow him and let him get to know her. Maybe she'll mate with him. Then she'll lead him into the trap I'm fixing."

Ned Ollin's derisive laughter brought a coppery flush to Ken's tan. The men sat on the station verandah, the afternoon of the first day, Sheila, a handsome, intelligent-looking war-rigal with a light, cream-colored coat, lying at her master's feet, pointed ears erect, gold-brown eyes cocked toward Ken's face. There was a canny depth of acumen in those eyes and in the wide dome of her head—intelligence that seemed to take in every word spoken and to weigh the dislike and disbelief that hung thick between the speakers.

"I've got to have proof—a whole lot of proof," Dell Bannister said. "A dingo's a dingo to me and they're all alike. She'd better act fair dinkum and keep her frigging teeth out of the sheep, mister, or I won't guarantee her health here."

"She will. She's been trained since birth. I can see you have no faith in my tactics, Mr. Bannister, but I'm here to prove my claim. I've got thirty quid that says Big Reddy's hide will be hung within a week. Care to cover it?"

"You're on!" Bannister pulled out a roll of pound notes. "For Reddy's scalp it'll be cheap at the price, but I don't think you'll deliver."

Ken Crombie drew a breath of relief, but it was not unmixed with tension. He knew just where he stood here. He was a field officer in good standing with the Dingo Destruction Board. If the present venture was successful and he brought in the scalp



*Big Reddy himself stood in the fore. The largest, most magnificent dingo Sheila had ever seen . . .*

of Big Reddy, the wildest dingo in the Board's annals, there'd be praise and congratulations, no end; possibly promotion. He needed that promotion just now, for he was to marry a girl back in Port Augusta the following month. But if he failed, he'd cut himself a nice slice of throat, and he'd never hear the end of it. It was all up to Sheila . . .

It was getting on to "pickinny daylight," the fifth afternoon, when Sheila took leave of her master down beyond the paddocks. Ken knelt beside her, an arm about her neck, talking low and close to her ear as if to instill her with the very will and fibre of his purpose:

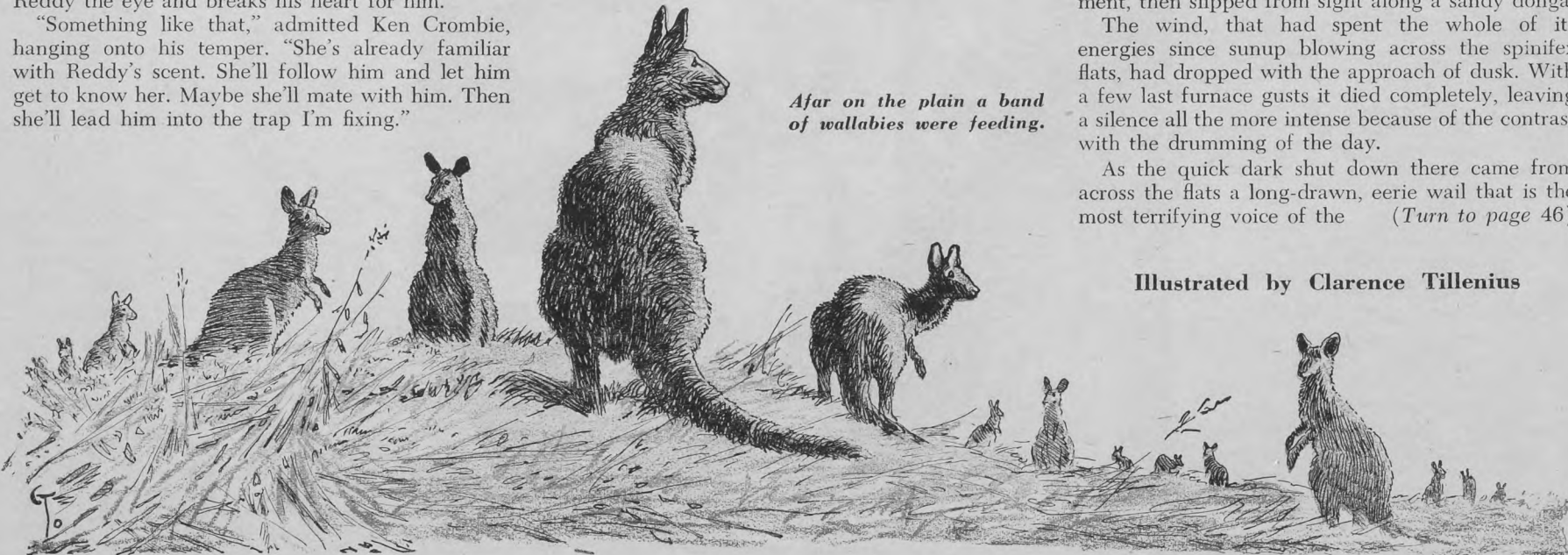
"We've got to put this one over, old girl. Got to use our heads: think trap and nothing but trap, see? No shinnanigans."

Sheila seemed to understand. Ken released her with a slap on the flank. Far out on the plain she turned once to catch his look and nod of encouragement, then slipped from sight along a sandy donga.

The wind, that had spent the whole of its energies since sunup blowing across the spinifex flats, had dropped with the approach of dusk. With a few last furnace gusts it died completely, leaving a silence all the more intense because of the contrast with the drumming of the day.

As the quick dark shut down there came from across the flats a long-drawn, eerie wail that is the most terrifying voice of the (Turn to page 46)

*Afar on the plain a band of wallabies were feeding.*



Illustrated by Clarence Tilenius

THE COUNTRY GUIDE has just discovered the goose that laid the golden egg. It was laid by a lady goose called Gertrude, who resides in Aylmer, Quebec, just outside Ottawa. In fact if she stretched her neck she could see the parliament buildings, perhaps a very good reason why she rarely cares to stretch her neck.

Gertrude, of course, is going to turn Canada upside down with her golden eggs. Laying one each day, 31 in January, and one extra in February for St. Valentine's Day, Canada will hardly know how rich she is if Gertrude keeps this up. Meanwhile, Hon. Douglas Abbott, Minister of Finance, is busy these days wearing a path through the deep nap rug in his rented apartment like a sentry wears a path through the grass in a field. In his office, he spends so much time holding his head that Miss Bentley, his secretary, is thinking of installing a special mechanical head-holder. All because of Gertrude. Mr. A. isn't worried any more about where he'll get money. He is worried where he'll put it. All because of Gertrude.

Our usually resourceful finance minister doesn't know what to do. The latest news from the Abbott inner sanctum indicates that Hon. Douglas is contemplating the following alternatives:

- (A) Abolish income tax.
- (B) Pay off the national debt.
- (C) Phone Fort Knox and tell them where they can stick their money.
- (D) Raise his own salary.

Of course, with Gertrude laying those golden eggs out there in Aylmer, we have suddenly become the richest country in the world. Our minister just plain doesn't know what he's going to do with all the money Gertrude is making for him with her golden eggs. Hon. Doug's as embarrassed as a lady with two mink coats.

For a good golden egg these days, with devaluation, is said to be worth \$1,000,000. Gertrude thus ran up a balance of \$31,000,000 in January. This is net, not gross. In a year, she'll make us about \$300,000,000 if she just takes it easy. Ottawa says if she puts her heart in it, and doesn't get too involved with the income tax people, she'll make \$1,000,000,000 in less than three years; that's a lot of goose eggs.

Jack Couture, our Aylmer neighbor, was the first to tell me about Gertrude and her golden eggs. As president of the Aylmer Cow Watchers Society, Mr. Couture's main job in life is to watch cows. Incidentally, if you do not believe there is such an association as the Cow Watchers, you have only to read the Ottawa Citizen, where Mr. Couture's communications about cow watching appear.

Anyway, our erstwhile Cow Watcher suddenly left his bovines in the lurch one day, and rushed into my office with the breathless news about Gertrude. It seems that his neighbor, Mert Lemay, who bought the old Kilgour property in Aylmer several years ago for only \$200, had a bird that would make international financiers look silly and create of Fort Knox a useless hole in the ground. His goose had started to lay golden eggs!

I gave Jack Couture a cup of tea and a ladyfinger, which we keep in our office just for such emergencies, and said: "Tell."

It seems that when Merton Lemay bought the old abandoned farm where he now is, the local farmers snickered. The Old Timers said the place was hexed, that it would never grow anything.

# The Goose That Laid The Golden Egg



by AUSTIN F. CROSS

## A FABLE IN FINANCE

They were a bit sorry for Lemay. They said over and over again that everybody knew that only sumac would grow on that thin soil, that the scraggly contours of his two hundred buck farm would soon prove too much for him.

But it was not Lemay who was touched in the head, but some other people. For it was because of this very "crop" of sumac that Lemay bought the farm in the first place. He had a good contract with a Yankee firm to supply multi-colored wood. The American novelty company was using the wood to veneer fake antique furniture. They had a market for rare old antiques just as fast as the wood came from Canada.

Lemay cuts and saws his own sumac, and puts it through a special hardening treatment all his own. He uses chemicals of sorts. He does not say what they are, but one conjectures that sulphur is one of them. But the actual formula is said to be a closely guarded secret.

Several weeks ago Lemay noted that his pet goose, Gertrude, was busy pecking away at the sawdust and waste that came from the treated sumac. Mr. Lemay tried to coax Gertrude away from the sawdust. He even tried to bribe her with a choice selection of dehydrated grasshoppers. That was not for Gertie. As Cow Watcher President Couture said:

"She seemed to sense her destiny."

Then Gertrude laid an egg. It was as gold in color as a Saskatchewan sunset. Those who saw it

later, realized that at long last, what the alchemists of the ages had failed to do, Gertrude had done. She had laid a golden egg.

Originally, Gertrude was scheduled for Christmas eating. But our sumac entrepreneur had done his homework, he had been a good little boy when he was young and had read his fairy tales; and he knew. He knew what happened to the last man who killed the goose that laid the golden egg. So on December 25, last, Lemay switched to turkey instead. Psychologically inclined readers may well say that Gertrude had intuition.

But all riches brings trouble. Lemay is now lying awake these nights, trying to figure out if the income tax department will consider Gertrude and her golden eggs as income or capital gain.

But it also has Ottawa agog. When Kenneth Wilson, brilliant fiscal expert on the Financial Post learned of Gertrude, it is understood he admits he doesn't know how to handle this, that he never studied goose eggs in college, and he very much doubts if finance by golden goose eggs is orthodox finance.

Art McKenna, of Wall Street Journal, and resident correspondent for that paper in Canada, exclaimed: "Wall Street will not take this lying down; we shall fight Gertrude."

E. C. Ertl, erudite financial expert of the Financial Times is reported to have said that following the names of Malthus, John Stuart Mill, Lord Keynes and Bernard Baruch there now would be added the name, Gertrude. Not because it came last, would it be least on the list, either.

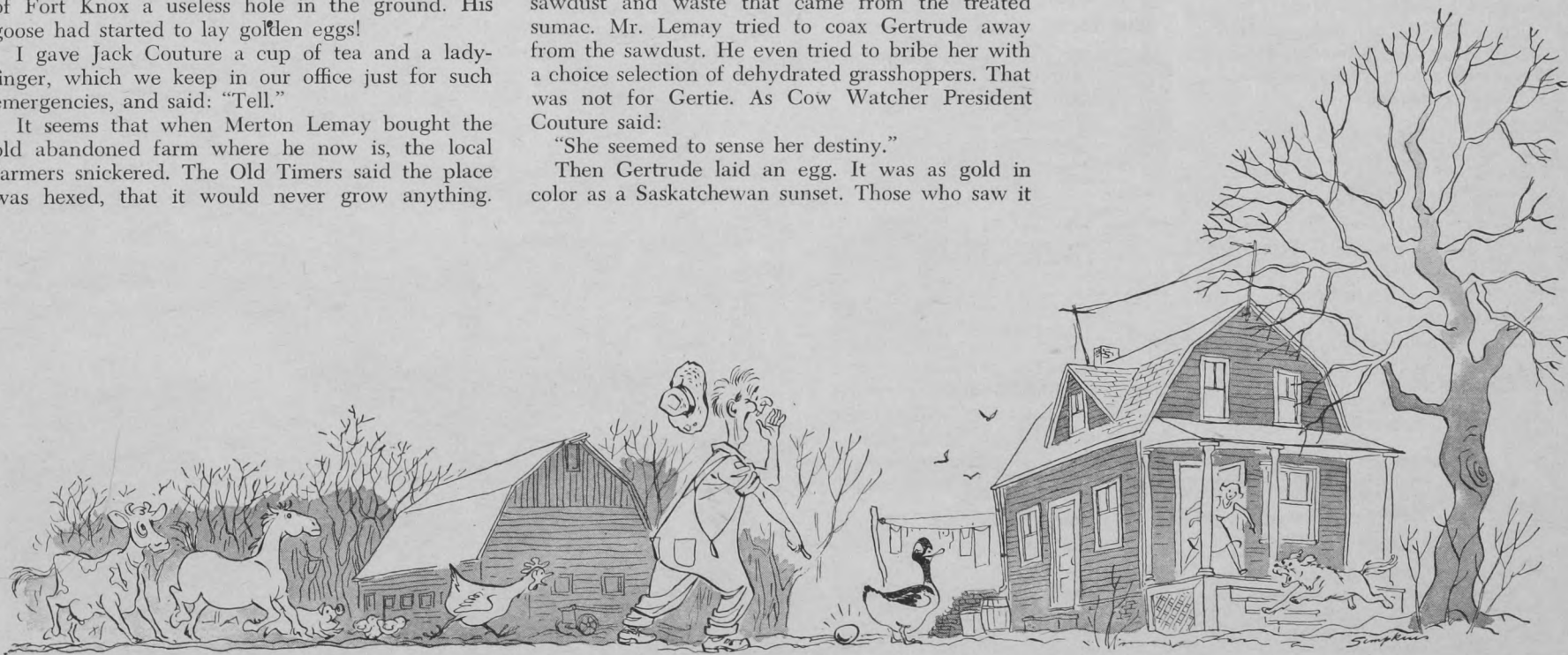
By this you can get a quick idea as to what Gertrude's steady output is going to do to the world. Why, the whole business of devaluation doesn't amount to a hill of beans. Non-convertibility becomes an old-fashioned word like antidisestablishmentarianism. National revenue becomes a joke. A deficit is a laugh. The war debt is just one of those things.

I saw Douglas Abbott just after the federal-provincial conference was over. I asked him what he was doing about Gertrude. He implied that Gertie was beyond him, and from now on, she was strictly a matter for his Brain Trusters.

"They're all losing weight," he was purported to have said. So that is why Mr. Abbott these days is not himself, that is why his much-trodden carpets are a casualty, that is why the finance department is in a tizzy. They've heard about Gertrude.

So, as the orthodox financiers get ready to throw in the towel, as Gertrude keeps on making the rich United States look each day more and more like poor relations, this Aylmer *Anserine* goes about her chores, quietly upsetting the economy of the world.

We in Canada have long wondered what was the answer to our problems as we pass through the financial alarms and excursions of the times. We search no longer; the answer is—Gertrude.



Mert Lemay's excitement when Gertrude laid the golden egg was nothing to that which spread through the department of finance.



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## B.C. Weather, Markets and Politics

*Cold weather, vanishing markets and an unexpectedly expensive health plan bring headaches at the Coast*

by CHAS. L. SHAW

EVERY year about this time, usually before, British Columbians start worrying about their unemployment problem. It is a depressing subject to worry about, but there is some consolation in the fact that the situation from a public standpoint is never as dark as expected.

As this is written, there are some 40,000 out of work in the coast province. That is a high percentage—9.1 actually—and it happens to be the highest in Canada. But, as in other winters, there is a reason for it that has little to do with the economic weather of the region. Invariably, thousands of Canadians drift to the coast for the winter. Many of them register for jobs even though they may not be in actual need, having brought enough money with them to carry them through until spring when they drift east again. But their names go on the unemployment rolls, and B.C. is, technically speaking at any rate, the black spot in the national employment picture.

The argument is being made, however, that the responsibility for these transient unemployed belongs to Ottawa and not to Victoria. If their unemployment insurance runs out while they are on the coast, B.C. shouldn't have to support them; or so goes the argument. The fact that British Columbia has had a winter such as few people anywhere in Canada would consider mild, and that the westward drift was therefore less justified than in other years is beside the point.

Speaking of weather, this winter has been one to embarrass the natives and disillusion the people who left the prairies and the east in the hope of basking in heat and sunshine on Canada's Pacific coast. In a more or less normal year, if there is even a flurry of snow and a touch of freezing weather, the loyal British Columbians protest that it is all most unusual, and the visitors usually accept their comment. But this year the claim that the weather has been exceptional, even phenomenal, is certainly valid. There was never anything like it before. When the mercury plunges to zero at Vancouver, as it did in mid-January, it's really cold.

To make things all the more difficult for the apologists and to add confusion to the visitors, this was the second cold winter in a row, and British Columbia is never prepared for

such things as prolonged freezing weather and heavy snowfall. Several outlying communities suffered real hardship and important farming centres such as Chilliwack were virtually isolated by drifts along the highway. Food parcels and supplies had to be dropped from planes.

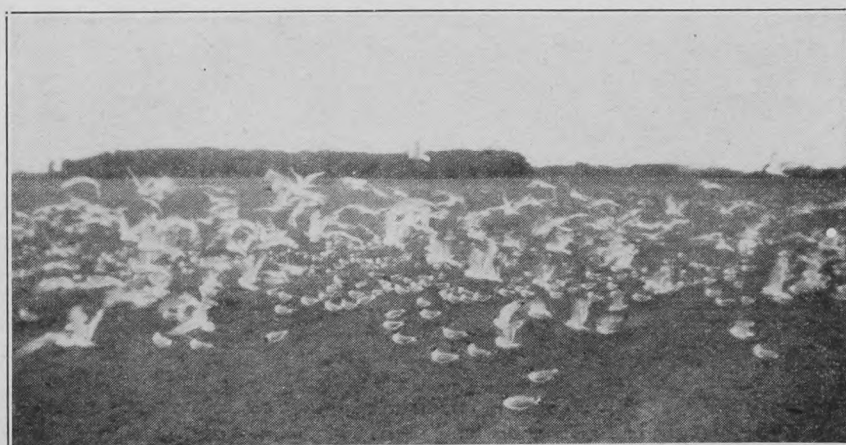
Indeed, the weather itself may be a serious unemployment factor before the winter is out. Already many sawmills and logging camps have been forced to close down owing to deep snow and ice on the roads and rivers. Out on the coast, the herring fleet has battled with numbing cold and frozen nets, and miners have been obliged to slow their operations.

Even with the unemployment, technical or otherwise, business and industry have maintained a surprisingly high level, but it is still too early to feel the full impact of the tapering-off of export trade which has been the province's mainstay in the past. The sterling countries have been buying in token amounts because of the shortage of dollars—just enough to indicate that while their hearts may be in the right place and their personal preferences unchanged, their Canadian funds are lacking.

The growers of the Okanagan orchard country realized long ago that they couldn't count on selling much to Britain this year. However, they decided that it would be good business all round to see that the United Kingdom was not starved of their apples. They are sending about a million boxes of the favored varieties to Britain as a gift, and paying the freight as far as shipboard. The shipments will be worth about \$1,500,000, but the growers felt that it would be a lot better to make this goodwill gesture even at that cost than to let the fruit go unsold. They aren't ready yet to write Britain off as a potential market of first-rate importance, and they don't want the British consumer to forget the taste of B.C. apples.

The shipments are to be made through B.C. Tree Fruits, Limited, the first time that the central marketing agency has handled such a large gift consignment. In the past, lots of apples have been shipped from Canada overseas gratuitously, but usually by individuals.

Fortunately, the domestic markets for the products of B.C.'s farms, mines, forests and fisheries have been expand-



Gulls feeding on grasshoppers on the farm of Wm. S. Bennett, north of MacGregor, Man.

ing to such an extent that the temporary loss of export trade has not been serious—not yet anyway. The sharp decline in overseas business is indicated, however, by the fact that the United Kingdom, which used to be the principal buyer of west coast lumber, has contracted to buy for the first half of this year the equivalent of only about two weeks' normal sawmill cut. The canned salmon industry did better—it sold about one-third of its total 1949 pack to the United Kingdom.

**P**OLITICS is in the air just now because the provincial legislature will be in session towards the end of February, and the prospects are for a lively and controversial period in the capital city. Forecasts of the legislative program are usually futile, but it is safe to predict that a great deal of attention will be given to the subject of compulsory health insurance because the course of this government venture has been constantly beset by troubles during the past few months and there is a universal demand for a public airing of the whole situation.

Probably the government will move to forestall criticism by ordering a sweeping reorganization of the health insurance system before the legislature assembles, but in the meantime conditions are in some disorder as a result of the resignation of Dr. J. M. Hersey as director of the plan.

Everyone in the province appears to be in sympathy with the program itself and the desire of the government to provide for hospital care on an insurance basis. But judging by events it would seem as though the government was in too much of a hurry to get the plan started. There was evidently insufficient preliminary study of the financing involved and the complicated and elaborate organization required to get such a broad scheme established.

Dr. Hersey apparently recognized the task was too formidable to be handled as the government had originally determined and made recommendations in favor of getting competent outside advice, but his suggestions were sidetracked. Meantime costs mounted and at least some features of the organization became chaotic. The net result financially has been that the plan is costing the province a couple of millions more than had been expected; rates have already been advanced once.

It may be necessary to set the rates still higher before the issue is settled, but before paying up with enthusiasm the public will want a guarantee that the organization itself is on a sound footing. Members of the government don't appear to be much concerned; they point out that an institution of this kind is bound to have a painful and rather costly birth and that everything will be all right eventually. Most people will agree with that, but that doesn't remove the inevitability of bitter debate when the lawmakers get down to business.

Vancouver Island growers are experimenting with new varieties of grapes in the hope that they will be able to develop commercial vineyards for the slowly expanding wine industry on a much greater scale than in the past. Progress made so far has been encouraging, but day and night temperatures on the island in summer are a good deal lower than most varieties require.

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## LIVESTOCK



Strong, healthy lambs or other livestock young can only be expected when the pregnant dams are fed liberal and adequate diets.

### Wintering Pregnant Animals

SOMETIMES livestock producers and breeders have difficulty in satisfactorily wintering breeding stock. This may be due to unusual climatic conditions, such as extremely cold weather or very heavy snowfall, or it may be due to feed supply, or price. When any one of these conditions makes economical feeding difficult, there is always a temptation to feed less, or perhaps to use feeds of poorer quality.

With pregnant female breeding stock, immediate economies may be secured at the expense of profits later on. Recently the universities of Alberta and Saskatchewan have co-operated with the Experimental Farm at Ottawa, the Experimental Station at Swift Current and the Range Experimental Station at Manyberries, Alta., in co-operative experiment on sheep nutrition, organized under the National Sheep Committee. In all, 396 ewes were involved over a two-year period; 204 head in the first year and 192 in the second. Ewes of different breeding were used on each of the five stations, and different relative amounts of clover and alfalfa hay, oat sheaves, timothy and crested wheat grass and oat and brome hay, as well as concentrates in the form of oats, oil cake, bran and rock salt were fed. Nevertheless, the experiments were carefully planned, with three lots of ewes on each station, one receiving legume hay, a second non-legume hay, and a third a non-legume hay until about mid-pregnancy, after which legume hay plus a grain supplement was used. Half of each lot at each station received a high-quality vitamin A supplement and all sheep were allowed free access to a mineral supplement.

The most satisfactory results were secured when legume hay plus minerals were fed to the pregnant ewes. Legume hay maintains the weight of the ewes better and resulted in the birth of heavier and more vigorous lambs. The treatments were not intended to affect the lambing percentage and did not do so, though there was a difference, which was not significant, in favor of the lot fed the legume hay.

In this experiment the feeding of a vitamin A supplement did not improve the ration in any group with respect to the body weight of the ewe, or the

birth weight or vigor of the lambs. The reason given for this was that while carotene analyses were secured from only one station, these analyses showed that even the ewes on the non-legume roughage received two or three times their normal requirement of vitamin A.

The Dominion Experimental Station at Lethbridge has recently pointed out that the percentage lamb and calf crops secured by ranchers and farmers next spring, as well as the health of the young at birth and their weights at birth and weaning time will depend to a considerable extent on feeding practice this winter. The comment is made that well-fed animals possess greater mothering instinct than those poorly fed. The quality of feed, as well as quantity, affect the unborn young during the last six to eight weeks before birth. This is the time when the foetus makes its most rapid growth, while at the same time the dam builds up reserve nutrients in her body on which to nourish the young after birth.

The Lethbridge Station recommends that small allowances of grain or protein supplements should be fed all breeding stock until green grass is again available. If the stock did not go into the winter in good condition and feed has not been of high quality, breeding cows, for example, do not need more than from two to four pounds of grain or one-quarter pound of protein supplement with reasonably good quality hay or grass per day. This should, of course, be in addition to a mineral supplement, plus salt. Pregnant animals should not be allowed to lose weight during the winter months and should make some gain if circumstances permit this at all.

### Reminder About Iodine

IN nearly all inland areas, away from the sea, the water and feeds produced on farms are likely to be deficient in iodine. Lack of iodine in the rations of breeding stock produces serious weaknesses, including weak and hairless litters of pigs, goitre in young lambs and calves, and joint ill in foals. Lack of sufficient iodine also tends to produce a general weakness in new-born animals.

Iodine can be fed in the form of iodized salt. Nearly all good livestock producers feed it regularly in this form. For breeding animals, however,

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it is necessary to feed somewhat more iodine, especially during the winter months. The Dominion Experimental Farm at Brandon recommends adding a teaspoonful of a solution of two ounces of potassium iodide dissolved in one gallon of water, daily for each brood sow, and twice as much for cows and brood mares. For breeding ewes, two ounces of potassium iodide dissolved in a small amount of water and mixed with 100 pounds of salt is sufficient.

### Amazing Grade Holstein

**A**NIMAL physiologists in New Zealand, Britain and in North America have been amazed by the world's record length of a single lactation piled up by Sucker, a grade Friesian cow in the herd of R. A. Candy, Ngarua, Walkato, New Zealand. Sucker last calved April 7, 1939, and at the end of June 1949 was still producing milk.

Up to the end of June she had been milking for 3,764 days and had produced a total of 5,485 pounds of butterfat since calving. Every year she falls away in milk during the winter months, but comes back perfectly normally when spring appears. She has never been coddled or specially fed and runs under ordinary herd conditions. At sixteen years of age she was showing the effects of age and was reported by the New Zealand Dairy Exporter to be getting shaky. Animal physiologists are hoping that Sucker will keep milking every day until she dies, because they are hopeful that a post-mortem examination will provide the answer to the question as to how she does it.

Another New Zealand cow, Mary, a grade Jersey, in Auckland, calved last on July 11, 1943, and by the beginning of June 1949 had produced 2,036 pounds of butterfat in a single lactation of 2,019 days. As a 15-year-old she was still milking. There are also records of a British milking Shorthorn and a Jersey-Friesian cross-bred in South Africa, each of which is reported as having been milked continuously for more than ten years.

### Low-Grade Feed Wheat

**B**ECAUSE of abnormal weather conditions leading to second growth of some crops and frost, the feeding quality of some Alberta grains this year is not as high as it ordinarily is. A. J. Charnetski, Livestock Supervisor, Alberta Department of Agriculture, calls attention to the low feeding quality of barley, much of which is grading No. 2 and No. 3 feed, and is comparatively low in protein content.

Because of this Mr. Charnetski advises that feeding barley of this kind alone to hogs is not satisfactory. A mixture of barley, oats and wheat (No. 5 or 6) would give better results. The low-grade wheat will help to offset the low protein content of the feed barley. The difference in cost per pound of wheat or barley feed would be quite small.

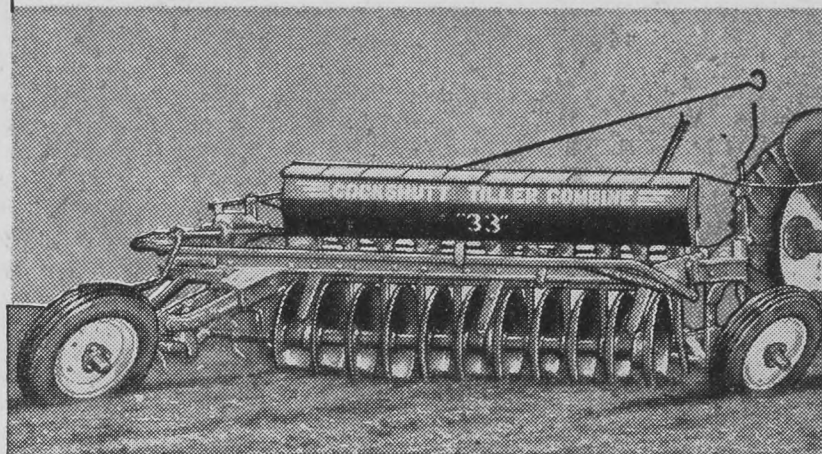
### Hog Mange May Be Serious

**I**T is reported by Dr. J. D. O'Donaghue, Extension Veterinarian for the Department of Agriculture, that hog mange is common in Alberta hogs, notwithstanding that control measures are simple and highly effective.

In its early stages small, thin scabs appear, particularly around the eyes

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The oil bath clutch and Timken bearings on the land wheel give added smoothness and ease of operation, resulting in superior performance, less wear and lower fuel costs.

### "35" Tiller Combine For Modern, High Speed Tractors

Here's a lighter-weight, lower price model that's been designed especially for lighter land conditions and minimum expense for tractor fuel. Built in 11-blade size only.

### Double Action Depth Control

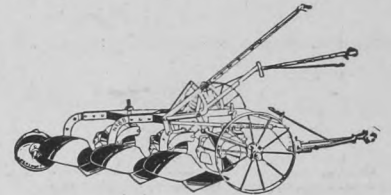
You'll appreciate the ease and convenience of the "35" depth control. It works right from the tractor seat and the twin-ratchet assembly gives you a far finer adjustment than you'd ever find on an ordinary lever and ratchet system.

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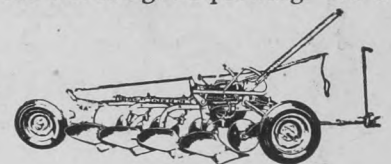
### "8B" Tractor Plow

ground up to do better work behind modern tractors. The chief reason for the famous light draft of these plows lies in the Cockshutt "Speed" bottoms. Ordinary bottoms, plowing at more than



### "24A" Tractor Plow

3½ m.p.h. pulverize and throw the soil, resulting in poor work and wasting power and fuel. Cockshutt "Speed" bottoms roll the furrows over easily and smoothly, even at speeds that were once considered too fast for good plowing. So if



### "4A" Tractor Plow

it's fast, low cost plowing you want, see the Cockshutt "Speed" plows at your Cockshutt dealer's. Compare them with anything else on the market and you, too, will agree they're the best buy by far.



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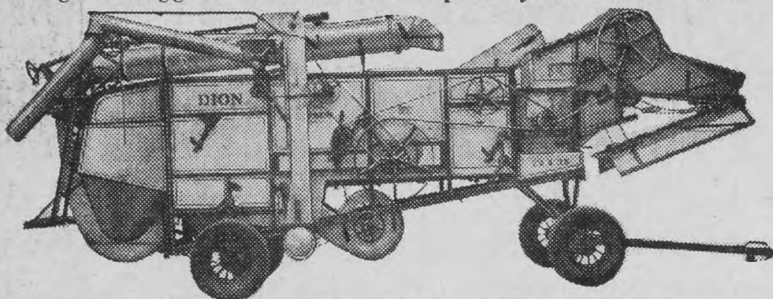
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and ears. If left unchecked, almost the entire skin of the hog will be affected, and in extreme cases, the skin will appear rough and wrinkled. Mange is produced by mites too small to be seen with the naked eye, which burrow under the skin and cause extreme irritation. The infected animals are constantly rubbing and scratching themselves, and because this condition is highly contagious, it spreads rapidly from pig to pig.

If carefully applied, old crank-case oil, put on with a stiff brush every few days until the disease has been cured, will kill the mites. The oil should not be applied, according to Dr. O'Donaghue, to more than half the surface of the skin at one application. Commercial preparations are also available, and a local veterinarian will be able to suggest the best one to use. A precaution is to burn or destroy all straw and litter which has been in contact with the diseased animals.

### British Lifetime Milk Record

FOR the first time in the history of British Holstein breeding, a British Holstein cow, Manningford Faith Jan Graceful, exceeded the lifetime record of a Dairy Shorthorn cow in milk production. In her seventh lactation, after 312 days of milking, the British Holstein cow achieved a total yield of 224,003½ pounds, with her lactation period incomplete. She thus broke the record established and held until December 8, 1949, by the British Dairy Shorthorn cow Winton Gentle 2nd. The world lifetime milk record is 267,000 pounds held by a U.S. Holstein cow, but the record of the British cow, according to The Farmer and Stockbreeder, is believed to be a world record for a cow of her age. Her previous lactation periods ran well over a year and ranged from 422 days in her first, to 607 days in her last lactation. Her official milk yields in 365 days gave from 13,276 pounds in her first lactation to 37,471 pounds in her fifth lactation, while her complete lactation for the full number of days she milked varied from 14,350 pounds of milk in her first lactation to 45,498 pounds in her sixth.

### Range Cattle Today

LAST year the Dominion Range Experimental Station at Manyberries, Alberta, sent out a questionnaire to ranches in southern Alberta and Saskatchewan. One of the many questions requested the opinion of ranchers on the size of commercial range cattle, as compared with those of fifteen or twenty years ago.

There were 164 ranchers who replied to this particular question, from all parts of the range area. Seventy-two thought that present-day commercial range cattle are smaller than they used to be, but only 16 were of the opinion that present-day cattle are too small. Thirty-three thought that cattle have increased in size, while an additional 22 believed that although they are smaller now, they are still large enough. Twenty-eight believed that size has not changed much if any, while 37 volunteered the opinion that cattle have improved both in uniformity and in type.

Authorities at the station concluded from the answers to this question that, "the predominating opinion seemed to

be that the medium-sized cattle will prevail, and that cattle have improved considerably in uniformity, thickness of flesh and general conformation."

### Better Grades For Cream

MUCH has been said about what the producer should do or not do to secure better grades for cream.

I believe that the producer is doing a very good job, but it is questionable if the manufacturer of dairy equipment is doing as good a job as he might. Cream cans rust very readily, dairy pails soon get holes in them, and it is almost impossible to find well-tinned pails as cream containers.

The creamery makes a good job of washing and scalding the cans, but spoils it all by putting the lid on tight before the can is dry. Result, enough moisture condenses to leave a small amount of water in the can; a sure way to invite rust. In hot weather it is especially bad and by the time the can reaches the producer of good quality cream it is anything but a pleasant job to get the can in fit condition for another trip to the creamery. So let's all get together for better cans and other equipment, more careful handling of cans at the creamery and the producer doing a good job of clean milking and quick cooling of the cream.—Mrs. C.E.M., Man.

### Winter Cream Production

THERE is always a great deal of trouble during the winter months from frozen cream which lowers grades and therefore causes loss to the producer. Cream of this quality produces butter of lower quality, besides which it makes extra handling in the factory, causes extensive loss of fat in the buttermilk and cannot be sampled or tested with accuracy.

D. H. McCallum, Dairy Commissioner for Alberta, recommends storing winter cream in water which is cool, but not allowed to freeze to any extent; protecting containers from excessive cold during transit, and delivering cream to the station as near to train time as is safe and practicable, so as to avoid leaving the cans on the station platform longer than necessary.

It is probably true that abundant feed of good quality pays off as quickly with milk cows as with any other animal. The Dominion Experimental Station at Swift Current points out that, especially in winter, there are many cows capable of producing considerably more milk than is usually obtained from them. Very often this lack of production is due to both feeding and management.

This is the reason, therefore, why alfalfa is a roughage without any superior for raw milk production. It is relatively high in protein and is both palatable and relatively succulent. The difference between alfalfa or other good quality leguminous hay and a good non-leguminous roughage is that more concentrated grain must be fed with the latter to produce the same yield of milk. Swift Current says that a good rule in feeding dairy cattle is to allow 2 to 2½ pounds of roughage per day for each 100 pounds of live weight of the cow; and that approximately half of the roughage should consist of alfalfa. To this, then, is added, for best results, one pound of grain or grain and protein concentrate mixture per day, for each three or four pounds of milk produced per day.

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## Concerning Coyotes

*A Guide reader advises farmers to manage their own coyote control program*

THERE have been quite a few stories in the press and on the radio about the coyote menace in Alberta this past late summer and early fall. Demands have been made to the government to restore the bounty and the government itself has sponsored hunts from airplanes. These are all to the good. I personally have seen depredation by this sly animal, particularly on turkey flocks, and once they find a good spot to raid these birds, there is no stopping them until they are shot or the turkeys disposed of.

There have been organized drives with as many as fifty men participating covering a given area. These drives have resulted in the killing of several coyotes but nothing compared to the effort expended to get them.

It seems to me, however, that individual farmers could do much to combat these animals. If you live in a vulnerable spot, as the writer does, I feel you can hold them under control. I bought a .22 Hornet rifle fitted with a four-power telescope sight and I find that any coyote up to 300 yards is really "sticking his neck out" coming near; up to 500 yards he is taking a chance by stopping near. I find too that even if you miss them they will not prowl near if shot at.

So I suggest anyone with turkey flocks or poultry, particularly the white or reds that show up on a clear day at some distance if your buildings are on a high spot, would find it worth-while to provide himself with such an outfit and you will be surprised as well as thrilled with the results. An ordinary .22 calibre will kill them I know, and even a shotgun will drop them up to 60 yards with heavy load shells, but these extra heavy cartridges such as .22 Hornet are more accurate and with a little practice using a scope sight you will be delighted with the results.

This writer would, however, rather put up with the coyote menace than be pestered with coyote hunters. By that I mean the people who travel around the district with a jeep or light truck fitted with a kennel for dogs. These people cut fences, pull up posts and generally make a nuisance of themselves. It makes me see red to find four wire fences with heavy cedar posts with the wires cut or posts lifted out of the ground and the fence left open. Often this is done when it is not necessary as we have good gates on all sides of our pasture.

Anyway, I would not like to see the day come when the coyote will permanently disappear from our western prairies, for with all the mischief charged up to him, I cannot help but admire this cunning animal. Besides, he is a part of our western life and belongs here, and they do a lot of good holding other pests in check such as gophers, weasels and field mice.

I have also made some shots at magpies with this rifle outfit that to me were truly amazing, in one instance shearing off his long tail like it had been done with a razor blade. They are quite helpless trying to fly without their long tail for a rudder.—Harvey Hanson.

## I CALL THIS A 'JAM SESSION' -SAYS MRS. TOM ALLEN



"When we speak of a jam session, we actually mean making jam or canning," says Mrs. Allen. "By calling it that, the job sounds more like fun than hard work."

"And, naturally, I do anything to make light of hard work, because there's plenty of it on the farm, both indoors and outdoors."

"But no matter how hard the work is, even during canning season, I've my private recipe for keeping hands soft, and nice-looking: pour a little Jergens Lotion on your hands and smooth it in!"



"I'll soon have a 'corn-husking' party," says Mrs. Allen, "but only for the family and me. Sometimes we husk enough to fill a bin. I certainly need Jergens Lotion after that, to help prevent chapping and roughness."

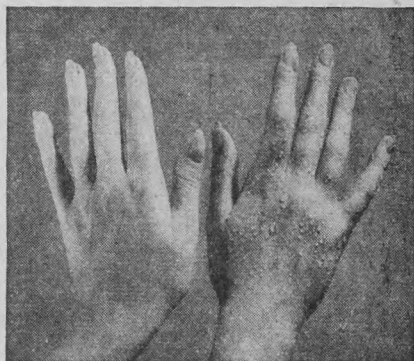


"I don't have to pretend fishing is fun," says Mrs. Allen. "It's a pleasure the whole family shares—like my Jergens Lotion. We all want soft, smooth hands." Jergens is only 10¢, 28¢, 53¢, 98¢. Never oily or sticky.



"I tend my looks and the farm. My hands get beauty treatments with Jergens often." Being liquid, Jergens quickly furnishes the softening moisture thirsty skin needs.

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(More women use Jergens Lotion than any other hand care in the world!)



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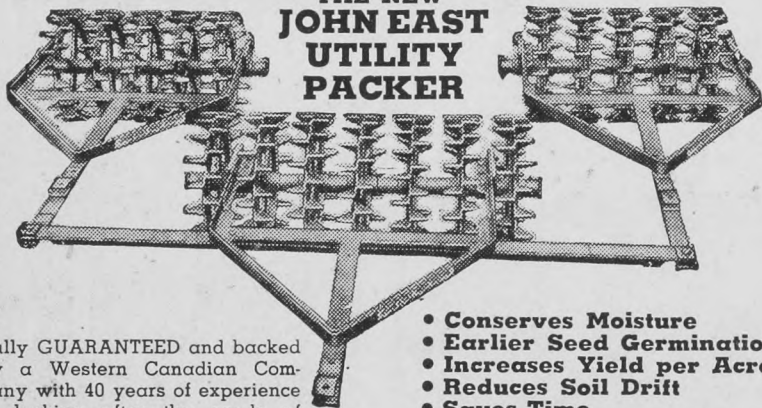
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## FIELD



Snow ridging (top) conserves moisture. In the spring unridged fields clear more quickly (bottom), while the ridged portion receives more moisture from the melting snow.

### Utilizing Snow For Moisture

THE recent progress report of the Dominion Experimental Station at Scott, Saskatchewan, recalls the work begun at that station about ten years ago on the desirability of utilizing snowfall to augment the rainfall of the area. Most of the snow which falls is of little value in crop production, because, as the report states, "it is swept from the open fields and deposited around obstructions such as fence rows, shelterbelts and coulees, by the winter winds." Nevertheless, snow totals about 25 per cent of the total annual precipitation in the area.

We have long known of the welcome addition to moisture secured from melted snow by our prairie experiences with shelterbelts of trees, by which large drifts are accumulated. It was because of these experiences that the station at Scott conducted some experiments in trapping snow, which would otherwise be blown from the open field.

After testing several methods, a cheap, workable snow plow was designed which would ridge the snow, especially on bare fallow, as soon as three or four inches had fallen. It was found that the direction of the ridges should preferably be at right angles to the prevailing wind, and that the ridges should not be farther apart than about 10 feet. After a period of several weeks the space between the ridges would no doubt again be full of snow and a second ridging operation performed. In all probability, after several weeks more, the whole area of the field would be covered by some two to three feet of snow, 24 inches of compacted snow being equal to seven inches of rain. There was also little loss due to evaporation.

Results from this method of conserving moisture at Scott have not been altogether consistent in the yield increases secured from cereal crops. "Hay crops," says the report, "which require abundant spring moisture to



Utilizing snow moisture gives the crop a better start (note difference in height of straw), but will not be sufficient to carry the crop through hot summer months.

produce good yields have consistently benefited from snow plowing at this station. Cereal crops, on the other hand, benefited markedly in the early spring, but the available moisture as a result of snow conservation was not sufficient to carry them over the entire growing season. Therefore, when the summer months of June and July were dry and warm, no benefits have resulted on Weyburn series of clay loam soils on the station."

#### Liquid Fertilizer For Cereals

RECENTLY there has been considerable discussion with respect to the use of liquid fertilizers on grain crops. Reports indicate that substantial quantities of this type of fertilizer have been purchased in the prairie provinces. The Alberta Fertilizer Advisory Committee has recently issued a statement advising caution in the use of this type of fertilizer, based on the simple economics of the matter. This indicates that the three important elements supplying nutrients to plants by means of fertilizers are phosphorus, nitrogen and potash. The content of these three elements in a commercial fertilizer is expressed as in the well-known 11-48-0 fertilizer commonly recommended for grain crops in the prairie provinces. This particular fertilizer is one which contains 11 per cent of nitrogen, 48 per cent of phosphoric acid and no potash. Fertilizers with relatively high percentages of phosphoric acid are recommended, because prairie soils are characteristically deficient in phosphorus. The low content of phosphorus, both absolutely and relatively, in the liquid fertilizers commonly offered is of itself an argument against the likelihood that they would be profitable. The Alberta Committee says that "the fertilizing element (phosphorus, nitrogen and potash) proved to be around 30 times as expensive as in the standard fertilizer."

Work has been done with these fertilizers by way of field tests in all three prairie provinces, and will be continued in 1950. Meanwhile their use is not recommended for grain crops by the authorities in any one of them.

#### Test For Germination

IT appears to be somewhat more desirable this year, than in the average year, to test seed grain for germination, though this is, in fact, always advisable in order to adjust seeding to the percentage of the seed likely to germinate.

Any one may make a germination test at home without difficulty. Perhaps the simplest method is to use two ordinary pie plates. In one plate put two or three layers of blotting paper or about half an inch of sand. Cover the sand with a cloth and saturate the sand and cloth well. Count out 100 kernels of cleaned grain, spread them evenly on the top of the cloth and turn the other pie plate upside down over the first one, so that the edges fit evenly and well.

Another way is to make a rag doll germinator. Take a strip of flannel about ten inches wide, spread the seed evenly over one-half of the flannel, fold the other half over them, then roll the double fold and tie it loosely. Soak the roll in water for about 12 hours and then place in a box some place where it will remain damp. Some of the seed will germinate more quickly than the rest, but within a few

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"I'm very pleased with 'Caterpillar'-built machines," states owner Emil Cammaert, Rocky Ford, Alberta. "The Diesel D2 is my third in 19 years."

Prairie Province owners commonly save 60% to 80%, on fuel expense alone, with a "Caterpillar" Diesel Tractor. In addition, this power with all-soil, all-weather traction gives them the yield-boosting advantages of seeding early. Plus, a big bonus of drawbar pull, to do extra-thorough work; or to pull extra-wide hitches.

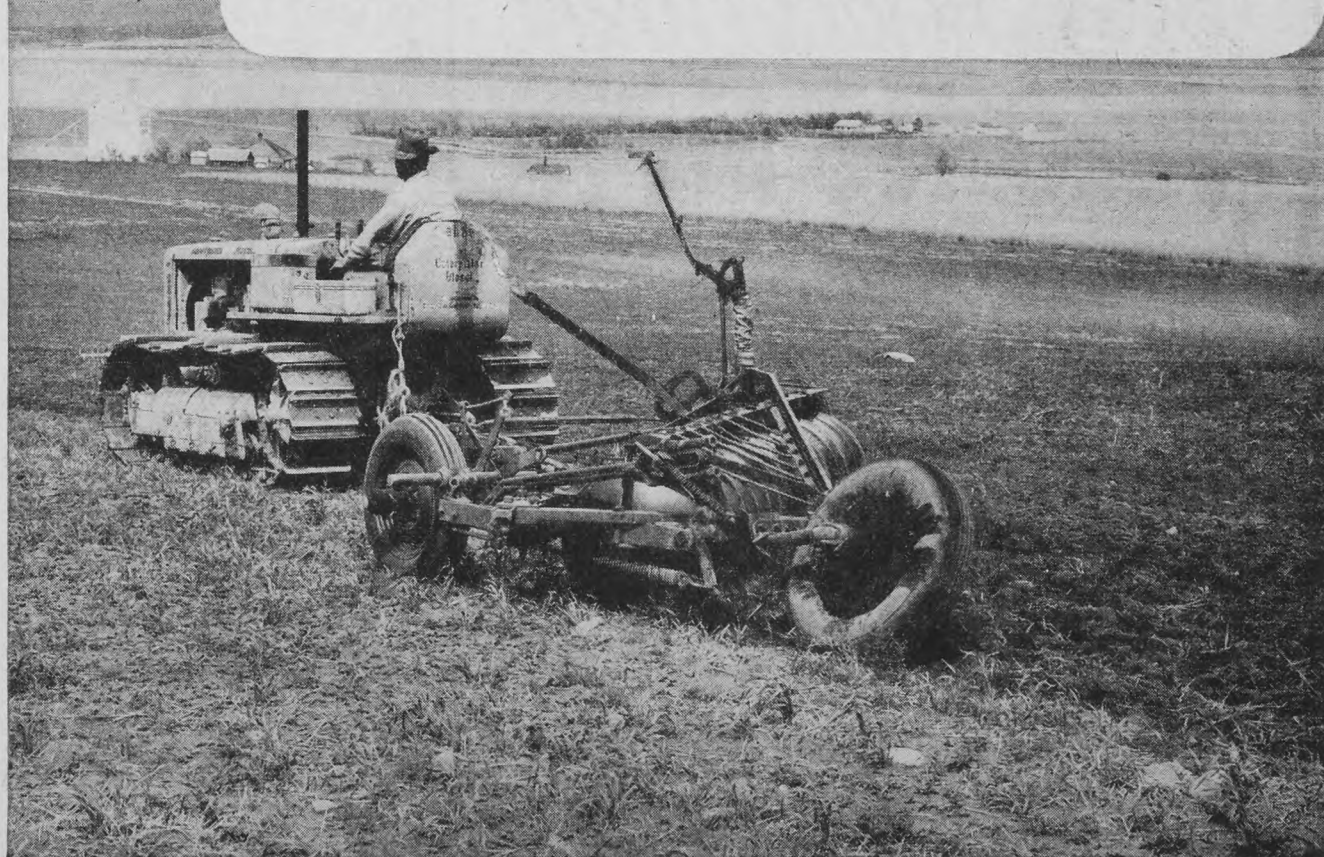
And "Caterpillar" Diesel Tractors that have each worked 20,000 hours, and more, on Canadian farm work are still "at it." That equals over 20 tractor years for the average power user.

There are 5 practical farming sizes of "Caterpillar" Diesel Tractors — 32 to 130 drawbar horsepower. All sizes are on duty in Canada. Ask your "Caterpillar" dealer for information on the size you need, or write direct to "Caterpillar."

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days it will be possible to count the number of seeds that have germinated strongly, those that show weak germination, and those that have not started at all. Since a start was made with 100 seeds, the count will indicate clearly the percentage of germination.

If an outside test is desired that might be considered more reliable, there are many places in the prairies to which samples of the seed, cleaned the way it will be when sown, can be sent. Your nearest agricultural representative or district agriculturist may make these tests for you, but certainly will be able to direct you to a suitable testing centre. A number of grain marketing organizations and elevator companies are willing to perform this service at no charge. In any case it is important every year, and more important this year in some areas than others, that a germination test should be secured before seeding.

#### **Serious Grasshopper Threat**

**N**OT long ago Hon. T. C. Nollet, Minister of Agriculture for Saskatchewan, warned Saskatchewan farmers that one of the worst grasshopper outbreaks in the history of the province may be expected this year. About the same time Hon. F. C. Bell, Minister of Agriculture for Manitoba, authorized preparations to deal with what is expected to be the greatest grasshopper threat in 20 years in his province. Alberta is not likely to escape a similarly serious threat in certain areas.

Where 40 Manitoba municipalities were infested with grasshopper eggs in the fall of 1948, there were 60 municipalities, representing double the 1948 area, which showed similar infestations in the fall of 1949.

In Saskatchewan the grasshopper egg survey last fall showed 204 rural municipalities and local improvement districts affected so much that at least 150 of them will require well-organized control programs to prevent serious damage to crops this year. Egg infestations cover practically all of the farming area south of North Battleford and Prince Albert and west of a line through Watson, Wynyard, Indian Head, Arcola and Carnduff. The heaviest egg infestations, according to Mr. Nollet, are to be expected in central Saskatchewan, along the east side of the South Saskatchewan River from the Blaine Lake-Rosthern area through Saskatoon, Colonsay, Elbow, Davidson, Moose Jaw, Regina and Francis.

In west central Saskatchewan also there are heavy concentrations of eggs, the most serious areas being in the Kerrobert-Landis-Reward district and in the Herschel-Rosetown-Delisle and the Plato-Brock areas. Already rural municipalities in Saskatchewan had ordered 720 carloads of chemicals and sawdust by the first week of January. It is estimated that last year's Saskatchewan campaign saved an estimated \$50,000,000 worth of crops. Another million dollars worth could have been saved had there been sufficient early and conclusive action. The most loss occurred through failure of farmers to follow recommended cultural practices.

Last year the campaign in Manitoba was successful. It cost the province more than \$100,000, but about 14,000 miles of road allowance were sprayed without any cost to farmers, and, in addition, farm owners met

one-third of the cost of spraying about 3,000 farms. Now is the time to get organization work completed and to place all orders for control material estimated to be needed.

#### **Formaldehyde Seed Injury**

**A** RECENT statement by Dr. A. W. Henry, University of Alberta, with reference to seed injury as a result of treatment with formaldehyde, is somewhat more explicit than is sometimes the case. Cerealists and plant pathologists have recommended formaldehyde in recent years with substantial reservations. Dr. Henry advances seed injury resulting from the treatment of large quantities of seed grain with formaldehyde, as one of the reasons why crops in many parts of Alberta failed in 1949 to measure up to expectation.

Apparently the weather conditions which prevailed in many parts of Alberta in the spring of 1949 tended to encourage seed injury if the seed had been treated with formaldehyde. This chemical has serious limitations as a fungicide for use on seed, particularly on hullless seed grains like wheat. Formaldehyde will satisfactorily control covered smut in wheat, barley and oats but, Dr. Henry says, "such a control is likely to be obtained at a sacrifice, particularly in the case of wheat, even in the hulled grain. There is danger of injury by formaldehyde, especially if overdoses are given, if treated seed is sown in dry soil, if seeding is delayed after treatment, or if there are present other conditions which tend to encourage seed injury."

Many people apparently continue to use formaldehyde because they believe they can correct the seed injury by sowing at a little higher rate. Dr. Henry contends that this is not the case, "since the total amount of injury is not expressed in reduced germination." Even more, he reports, may be the reduced and retarded growth of the crop as a whole. This, in turn, often means more damage from weeds, insects and diseases.

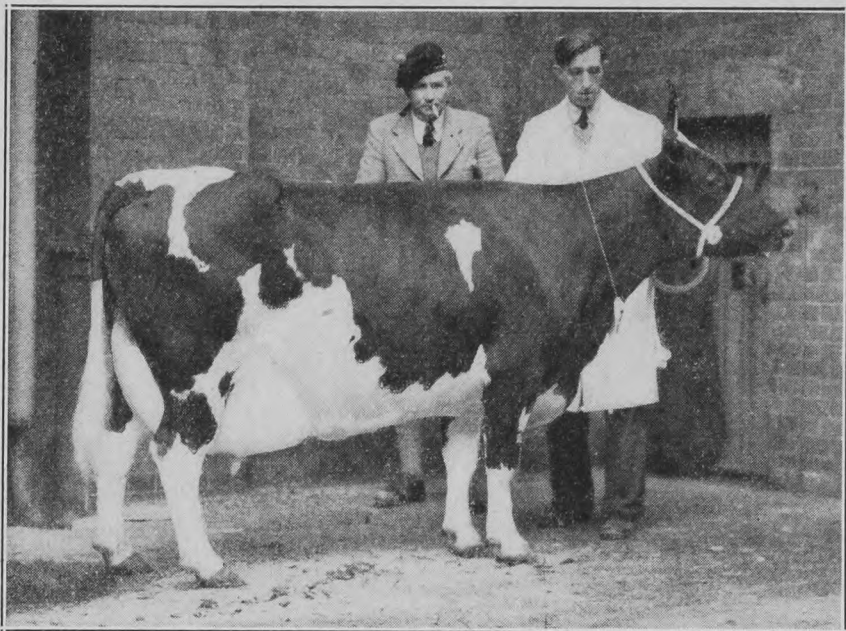
Not all seeds react in the same way to formaldehyde treatment. Hulled oats seem to be least injured, and wheat, rye, hullless barley and hullless oats most likely to be injured, especially the hullless oats. Injury is also determined largely by the condition of the seed. Damaged or broken seeds, whether the damage occurs during threshing or as a result of frost, is more subject to injury. Seed of naturally low viability is likely to be still further injured than benefited by formaldehyde treatments. Furthermore, overdoses are common. These very often accentuate the injury and on occasion, according to Dr. Henry, their use may result in crop failure.

#### **Practical Use Of Strips**

**S**TRIP farming is being used as a measure of control of wind erosion in many areas, and has been very useful as a soil saving measure. With the increase of water erosion some thought could well be given to laying out the strips so as to give protection against both wind and water erosion.

Strips for the control of wind erosion are normally parallel and laid out across the direction of the prevailing winds. If water erosion is to be controlled the direction of the prevailing winds must be considered, but so must the topography of the land.

## News of Agriculture



[Courtesy U.K. Information Office.]

The Ayrshire cow, "Overtoun Cherry Fine," supreme champion at Britain's Olympia Show, the 63rd annual show of British Dairy Farmers' Association. In addition to her fine form, she produces milk with a six per cent butterfat content, and was winner of the milking trials at the Royal Show of 1947.

### U.S. Cuts Farm Prices

ON January 20 the Canadian Government brought into operation dumping duties with respect to any imports coming to Canada from the United States and offered at prices lower than the prices at which the product is offered in the country of origin.

The announcement followed three days after an announcement by the Commodity Credit Corporation, of its intention to dispose of stated quantities of surplus farm products acquired under the U.S. farm price support legislation, at prices below cost. These products include 100 million bushels of surplus corn, 20 million bushels of surplus barley and 13.5 million bushels of surplus oats, which are to be offered at free market prices until March 1. Ralph S. Trigg, President of the CCC, said of this announcement: "We are interested in moving into consumption abroad any CCC inventories that are not needed as reserve supplies in this country. . . . Through monthly announcements, exporters will know in advance the commodities and quantities that are available and the prices for which they may be obtained for a fixed period ahead."

The USDA also announced that there would also be available 13,000,000 bushels of flaxseed at \$3.99 per bushel, Minneapolis, or \$4.45 east coast ports; 400,000,000 pounds of raw linseed oil at 18½ cents per pound, New York or Baltimore; 73,000,000 pounds of dried eggs in barrels and 56-pound containers, at 40 cents per pound New York or New Orleans; and 170,000,000 pounds of spray and roller type, non-fat dry milk solids, in export barrels at 12½ and 10 cents per pound respectively. Likewise, stocks of Irish potatoes which cost the U.S. government \$2.10 per hundred pounds would be available for export to other than normal export markets at one cent per hundred-weight, plus interior transportation from Searsport, Maine.

In addition, the U.S. Department of Agriculture will give away quantities of farm products under the provisions of the Agricultural Act of 1949, which stipulates that disposals shall not be handled in such a way as to lower

or interfere with the current price support program. In effect, the food will be disposed of through the National School Lunch program, the Munitions Board and other federal agencies, for use in barter arrangements, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, as well as federal, state and local public welfare associations, including private welfare agencies within the U.S. or its territories.

### Floor For Eggs

THE Dominion Minister of Agriculture, the Rt. Hon. J. G. Gardiner, announced on January 27 a floor of 30 to 32 cents per dozen, basis Grade A large, for eggs. The actual floor will depend on shipping costs, and storage.

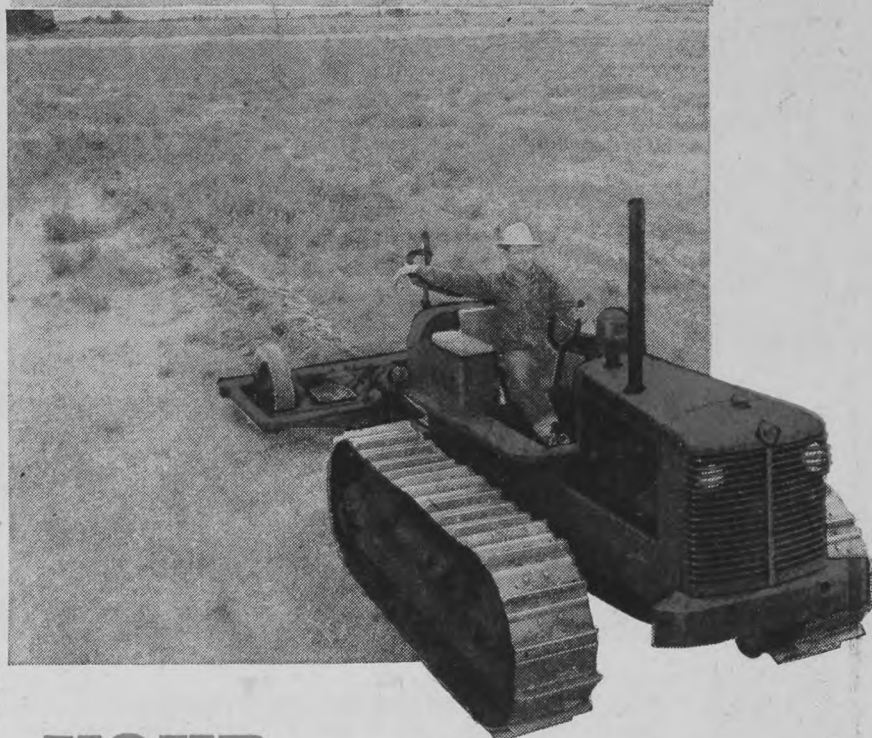
The Agricultural Prices Support Board will pay 38 cents per dozen for Grade A large, and 36 cents per dozen for Grade A medium, for stored eggs at all storage points in Canada. In addition the Board will also pay a stipulated allowance to cover costs.

As a result of this action the government anticipates that while the egg market had dropped from 13 to 15 cents below the old floor price established by the 1949 British contract, the new 38-cent wholesale support price will put a six to seven cent prop under existing market prices. The Agricultural Prices Support Board will actually be guaranteeing 38 cents for Grade A large eggs in storage. The storage period for 1950 will end next fall, at which time the Board will be committed to buy all eggs still remaining unsold by trade and other marketing groups, including provincial government boards, to the extent that these eggs have been stored according to Board specifications, during the first six-month period, from January to June.

### Cheese And Bacon Contracts

AT the turn of the year it was known that a cheese contract would be arranged with the British Ministry of Food but the details were still not fixed. It was also known that a bacon contract was impossible unless some delivery of wheat under the Canada-U.K. Wheat Agreement could

On this one hydraulically controlled A-C Hydro-Carrier you can mount 12 tillage units — chisels, ditcher, subsoilers, coil-shank cultivators, and land leveler.



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There's real satisfaction in owning *your own* HD-5. This easy-to-operate farm tractor gives you power to dig deep and cover the ground. No longer will you need to depend on custom operators to handle your big jobs.

Allis-Chalmers gives you a full line of farm tools for the HD-5 — hydraulically controlled equipment for sub-surface and surface tillage, ditching, leveling and other big-power jobs. Each of these units is matched to the diesel power of the HD-5 — power that pays its way and helps you do a bigger farming job at a lower operating cost.

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A flick of the hydraulic lever on your HD-5 and the A-C Hydro-Offset angles and digs in deep. Flick it again, it straightens and rides out of the ground.



## What you cut you thresh and **SAVE!**

### AND DO IT FASTER AND EASIER WITH EITHER OF THE TWO NEW **MASSEY-HARRIS Super COMBINES**

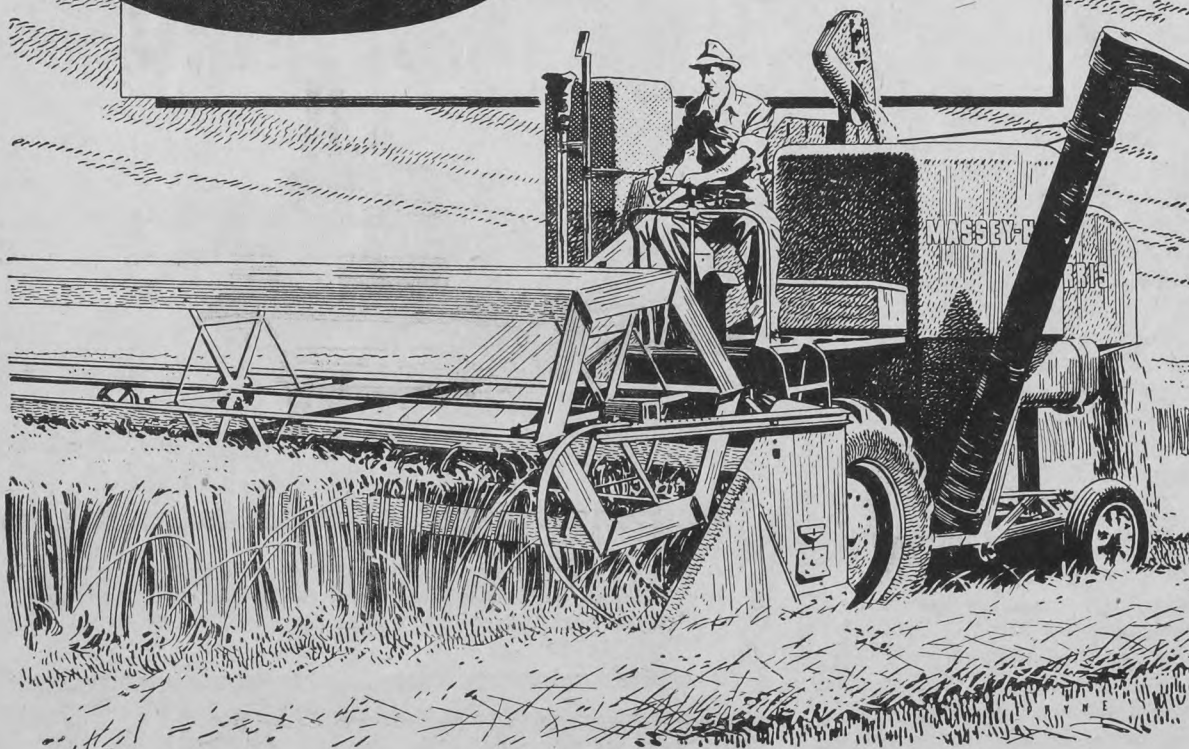
That's right . . . the new Massey-Harris Super 26 and Super 27 combines will thresh and save a bigger percentage of the grain you grow than any other method of harvesting. And nothing can equal them for speed. One man can harvest up to 70 acres a day with the Super 27, up to 50 acres a day with the Super 26. And on top of all this, they're easier to handle.

Look at the new "Super" models, or get the details from your Massey-Harris dealer, and you'll soon see why they are super-efficient and super-fast. The Super 27 cuts a 16-foot swath . . . has feathering auger to handle tangled

grain . . . has a bigger, better, rub-bar cylinder . . . longer, wider straw walkers . . . 60-bushel grain tank . . . 9½-inch unloading spout . . . bigger drive wheels . . . and a multiple-speed drive that gives you 24 different ground speeds. The Super 26, with 12-foot cut, is a smaller version of the Super 27, for farms with smaller acreage. The Super 26 does the same super-efficient job of threshing . . . and is super-fast for its size.

These points are just the highlights. Ask your dealer to explain the beater mechanism that regulates the flow through the machine and prevents bunching or jamming, even where stands of grain are uneven. Note the even distribution of weight, the electric table lift, the finger-tip controls, the roomy platform and hinged seat, the wide range of cutting heights, etc., etc. It all adds up to "Balanced Separation" . . . the biggest forward step in combine engineering since self-propelled were introduced.

**MASSEY-HARRIS**  
The world's most popular  
**COMBINE**



be postponed to allow Britain some Canadian dollars for bacon purchases.

On January 3, the Minister of Agriculture, the Rt. Hon. James G. Gardiner announced the details of a bacon agreement by which Britain would take Canadian bacon at \$29 per 100 pounds A Grade Wiltshires, f.o.b. Canadian seaboard, to a total amount of \$17,500,000. This meant a drop of \$7 per 100 pounds in the price paid by Britain. The Canadian Government, however, through the Meat Board, will meet half of this difference so that the Meat Board will actually pay \$32.50 per 100 pounds of bacon for approximately 60,000,000 pounds involved.

At the same time an announcement was made that existing export controls on hogs and pork products moving into the United States markets may be removed some time following June 30, at which time the subsidy of \$3.50 per hundred pounds in effect with respect to the British bacon contract will be removed. Meanwhile, some export permits for bacon going to markets other than Great Britain are being issued on application.

The U.S. market prospect for Canadian pork may be limited, however, by U.S. government pork buying (limited to bacon, smoked hams and smoked picnic shoulders) announced January 17 to offset heavy hog marketings and maintain a national average hog price of \$14.90 per 100 pounds live weight.

Although it had been intimated that details of the cheese contract would not be announced until later, the Minister did announce on January 19 that an agreement had been negotiated for a maximum of nearly 85,000,000 pounds at a price of 25 cents per pound, basis First grade, F.A.S. Canadian seaboard. The agreement provides for a minimum of 77,000,000 pounds and a maximum of 84.7 million pounds.

The new cheese price compares with 31 cents f.o.b. Montreal for the 1949 agreement. The maximum quantity for the 1950 is 35,000,000 pounds greater than last year.

Again, the decrease of six cents per pound is being shared to the extent of 50 per cent by the Canadian Government who have offered a purchase price in Canada of 28 cents per pound, basis First grade F.A.S. Canadian seaboard. This arrangement covers 1950 only and applies only to cheese purchased under British Agreement.

#### **Scottish Annuals**

For many years The Country Guide has offered for the convenience of subscribers, copies of the famous Scottish livestock annuals from the presses of the Farming News and the Scottish Farmer. These will be available again for 1950 and orders will be filled as usual at \$1 each postpaid.

For those who neglected to secure their copies of one or both of these annuals for 1949, a few copies are still available at the same price.

Similarly, The Country Guide will have a limited stock of the indispensable Stallion Record Books, also at \$1 each postpaid. Stallion owners should place their orders early. Address all orders to The Book Department, The Country Guide, 290 Vaughan Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

## Get It At A Glance

*Straws in the wind, blown from near and far*

IT has been reported from Washington that the International Wheat Agreement cost the U.S. Government more than \$80,000,000 in subsidies in 1949 and is expected to cost about \$75 million in 1950. The subsidies paid by the government vary according to the U.S. port from which the wheat is shipped, and also according to destination. During the early part of January the subsidies varied from 44 cents per bushel for wheat shipped from west coast ports to all destinations, to 54 cents per bushel from Gulf coast ports to European-Atlantic ports.

IN 1949, Canadian farmers purchased approximately \$204,000,000 of farm implements and equipment which compared with \$170,000,000 which was purchased in 1948. Ottawa trade officials estimate 1950 purchases at a little less than the 1949 level.

NUTRITIONISTS say that people should have a minimum of 2,550 calories of food value per day to keep reasonably healthy and energetic. Average throughout the world is perhaps 2,220 calories per day, compared with 2,400 before the war. In the Far East most people get less than 2,000 calories. The best fed people, those in Argentina, Australia, Canada, Denmark, Eire, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom and the United States, have an average of more than 3,000 calories.

NORTHERN Ireland has 88,000 farm holdings of more than one acre, which is a larger number than in Scotland and compares with 438,000 holdings in Britain. Northern Ireland has 20 per cent of her people on the land as compared with seven or eight per cent in Great Britain.

IT has been estimated that the total acreage which will be sprayed in 1950 with chemical weed killers in the prairie provinces may reach 15,000,000 acres. This would compare with 8,200,000 acres in 1949.

MAYBE next year or the year after we can sit back and watch a mechanical spade handle the garden for us. A firm in the south of England has evolved an electrically-driven implement called a "Spadet" which consists of two parallel revolving rods to break up the soil when pressed into the earth. Said to be fast, efficient and light in weight, the gadget can be used as an electric drill when the top is detached.

NOT yet manufactured in North America, "Pestox 3" produced by a British chemical firm is said to be remarkable as a new insecticide in that it is selective among the insects it kills, just as 2,4-D is selective among the plants it kills. The new insecticide is said to choose such pests as greenflies, blackfly and red spider, and leave beneficial insects like bees and ladybird beetles.

THE Argentine Government has allocated 27 million dollars for the purchase of agricultural machinery. This will not go very far to meet the needs of Argentine farmers, who are said to need 100,000 tractors immediately and 10,000 additional each year for some years to come.

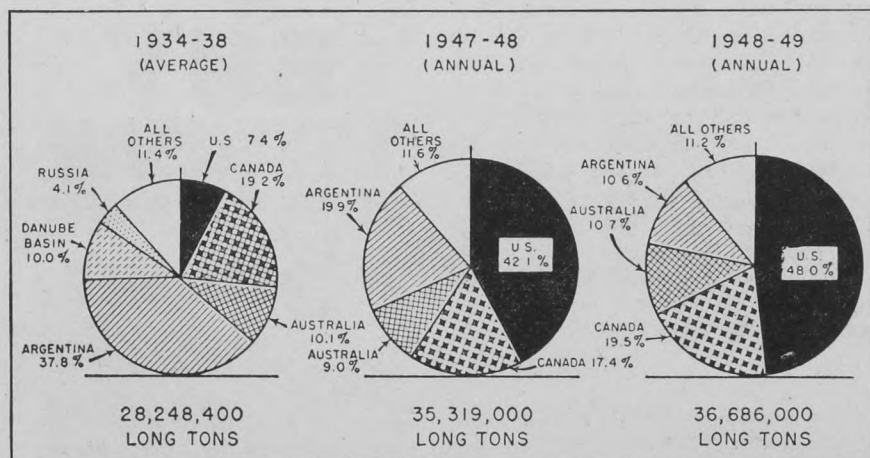
THE yield of grain per acre in Europe from the fall of Rome to the French Revolution (1789) remained at about ten bushels or less per acre. Today the average yield in many European countries is 40 bushels and over.

NEW head of the Plant Products Division, Dominion Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, is Grant S. Peart, formerly chief, Inspection Service, Plant Products Division, and during the war, the Fertilizers and Pesticides Administrator under the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. He first joined the department in 1912.

BY the last of November U.S. farmers had placed 353,746,480 bushels of 1949 wheat, barley, oats, rye, flax seed, soybeans, corn and grain sorghums under price support by the Commodity Credit Corporation.

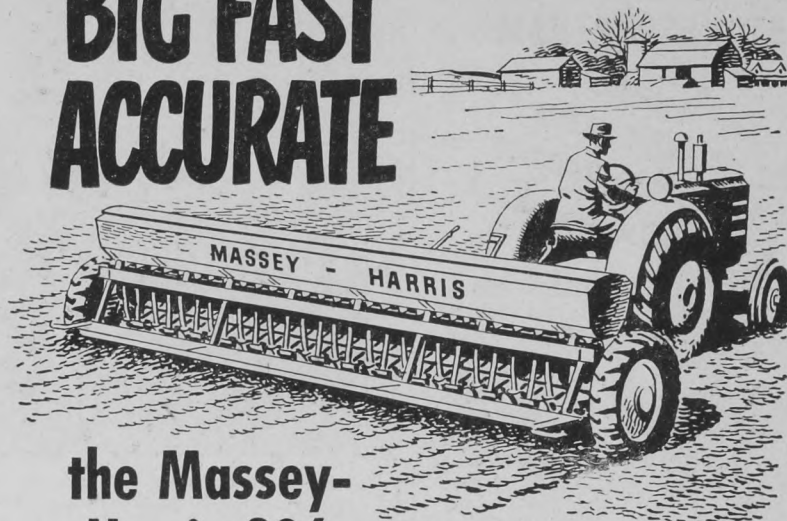
ABOUT 500,000 sheep are destroyed in Australia each year by wild dogs, called dingoes. The annual loss to ranchers is about two million pounds, Australian. It is now proposed to use airplanes to lay about 2,000,000 poisoned baits over a 42,000-mile line of flight.

BY 1948, milk production in Britain had caught up with and passed the 1939 estimated annual yield per cow of 551 gallons, to reach an average of 562 gallons per cow from 3,273,000 milking cows and heifers. This increase from a wartime low of 467 gallons per cow has been achieved despite the loss of one-third of permanent grass land and nearly two-thirds of the feeding stuffs formerly imported.



This graphic illustration of world origins of grain and grain product exports, shows clearly the marked increase in the U.S. share, partly at the expense of other countries.

## BIG FAST ACCURATE



the Massey-Harris 306 Drill sows more acres per day



You'll definitely get higher yields of better quality grain from early sown fields. It will pay you to speed up seeding with a Massey-Harris No. 306 drill. The big, rigid, roomy grain box keeps you sowing with a minimum of time lost in refilling. Light draft for team or tractor. Grain flows uniformly into 16, 20, 24 or 28 seed runs . . . gives extremely even and accurate seeding.

## EASY ON YOU



## HARD ON WEEDS

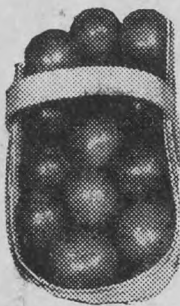
Massey-Harris tractor-mounted sprayers give you positive finger-tip control



For quick, easy handling, nothing can touch the Massey-Harris tractor-mounted weed sprayer. You have full view and instant control of all operations. A touch of the finger turns booms on or off . . . right or left, or both. The new-style, large-capacity filter can be removed for cleaning by merely hand-turning two thumb screws. Fast . . . sprays 12 acres an hour. Can be equipped for either field or row-crop spraying.

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I enclose 10 cents for  
[ ] McFayden Introductory 10c Seed Offer.

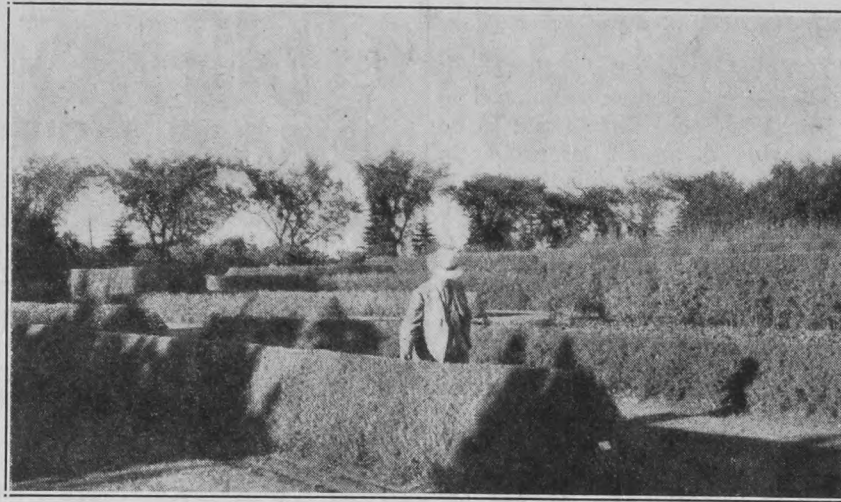
Please send me  
[ ] FREE 1950 McFayden Seed List.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

There is still only one **McFAYDEN**

## HORTICULTURE



Hedges are often used to separate, decorate or protect the farm lawn or garden. These are some of the hedges under trial at the Dominion Experimental Station at Morden.

### After Forty Years

Some opinions and experiences of a practical horticultural observer

AFTER 40 years of small-scale farmer-style experimenting with fruit growing under Saskatchewan dry land conditions, the following are some observations resulting from this experience.

The Canadian wild black currants are found not only in the dry areas of the west, but also in the rich, moist areas and also away up in the Arctic regions. I have 22 different seedlings taken from along local streams and when established they survive all dry periods. There are some that are self-fertile and many are not. Some ripen in July and some as late as September. The new growth is upright. The older growths flatten out to the sides forming a canopy that chokes out native grass underneath.

The tame garden black currants are all of European origin and will not survive the more severe dry periods, until we get seedlings for our own particular locality. It is doubtful if they cross with the Canadian. The Missouri currants seemed to thrive in the hot dry 1930's, but since then have not done so well. There are some superior strains though. The native gooseberries are, in habit of growth, quite similar to the native currants, both red and green, small fruit. The Pembina gooseberry is supposed to be of Central European origin, but could possibly be a free cross with the wild. With me it is superior to any other gooseberry. It is practically thornless.

Among the chokecherries, there are at least three families. Some of the common everyday seedlings commence to bear when only the size of a currant bush, and some do not do well under cultivation. There is a tall kind; and I found one kind that grows to a height of maples, very vigorous and productive. Chokecherries form their terminal buds about the first of June, unless moisture is very favorable. The rest of the season they just store strength in stems, fruit, roots and long, thick, underground sprouts.

The saskatoons I like to think about as very distant relatives of the apple, with tiny apple flowers and seeds. Like the chokecherries they spread out by suckers to make a dense clump so as to choke out competition by grass and weeds. They are quite variable in plant and fruit when you get to know them. Where you see isolated thickets along creeks or hills the chances are

each thicket originated from one seed and may be a thousand years old. Fifty years does not make much visible alteration.

It may not be generally known that both native Nigra and Americana plums are found along Souris River tributaries in Saskatchewan. Red River natives as a rule are too late ripening and generally less adaptable. I was fortunate in finding one native Nigra that produces a beautiful red, good-flavor plum that is quite good for cooking. The Americanas are without merit, except for hardiness. They can be crossed with the Asiatic plums, but not with the European. The European plums are the best for cooking, and I do not see why the nurserymen don't list those varieties that are proving hardy in Manitoba. When one hardy strain has been established crosses can then be experimented with, as with Italian prune.

Pears survive winters that are test years for apples, but may not survive when the soil is very dry.

The Manitoba wild grapes survive the winters without protection, but the 10th of June frost freezes the flowers, so I have had grapes only once in 40 years. There is a slight difference between them when it is only a light frost. There are some with leaves only partly frozen. Is there any locality in Manitoba where spring frost resistance has developed among them? If that could be added to their hardiness the prairie west should be ideal for growing grapes with all its heat and sunshine.

During the dry '30's we lost most of our fruit trees. We now have the Chief raspberry. The Ohta wintered without protection too, and the quality was better than Latham, but it seems to have been dropped from nursery lists.

The Russian Shubianka cherry is entirely hardy and suckers out into a dense, glossy-leaved thicket. It is unaffected by drought, but the blossoms are not self-fertile. It is even more suitable to our conditions than the natives. Crosses should produce some with quality and productivity.—P. Ashem, Norquay, Sask.

### Co-operative Potato Storage

ON Saturday, November 12, Saskatchewan's first Co-operative Potato Storage was officially opened at Lumsden. The more than 200

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**INCREASES GERMINATION**

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**5 lb. SIZE**

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people in attendance were very much interested in this fine, modern storage that marks the successful completion of plans which originated at a meeting of local growers in 1947. The Honorable L. F. McIntosh, until recently Minister of Co-operation Co-operative Development, officiated at the opening. He commended the growers for their efforts and stated that with the development of more projects of this kind there is no reason why a large part of the potatoes required by Saskatchewan cities and towns cannot be produced in this province.

L. B. Thomson, Director, P.F.R.A., and E. E. Eisenhaur, Deputy Minister of Public Works and Reconstruction, also addressed the meeting. They discussed irrigation and future developments in relation thereto in the Qu'Appelle Valley. (Lumsden is located in the valley of the Qu'Appelle river, some 25 miles northwest of Regina.) Mr. Thomson emphasized the role that irrigation could play in stabilizing agricultural production, particularly in areas of low precipitation.

Funds for the construction of the Lumsden storage were provided jointly by the federal government, the provincial government and a number of local potato growers. The storage is constructed so that trucks can be driven in and unloaded into the bins from above. Similarly, at the opposite end of the storage, there is a lower driveway for loading. The storage has a capacity of 33,000 bushels, and some 20,000 bushels of potatoes were in the bins at the time of the opening.

It was estimated that close to 50,000 bushels of table stock potatoes were grown in the Lumsden area in 1949. Approximately half of this quantity has already been marketed. Netted Gem, Columbia Russet and Warba were the varieties most commonly grown and the bulk of these potatoes were grown under sprinkler irrigation. Satisfactory yields and a good market in 1949 will probably encourage the planting of a larger acreage of potatoes in this area in 1950.—D. R. Robinson.

### Planted School Grounds

THE picture on this page illustrates how the people in one school district, at Treesbank, Manitoba, improved their school grounds. The following information together with the picture was supplied by Mrs. Cecil Vane, who writes in part as follows:

"I felt that your readers might like to hear of one school where the

trustees and parents did something to improve their school grounds.

"In 1927, land was bought from the C.P.R. to complete a large block east of the village, adjoining the school grounds. This was to be used for picnics and sports. East, south and north of the school land was laid out for a shelter for the school and picnics. It was broken in the same year and in the spring of 1928, 139 spruce trees brought in by volunteers from the prairies, and 73 maples from the nearby bush—212 in all were planted. In 1932 there were 150 additional spruce trees planted on the west side of the school grounds, as well as lilac and caragana planted alternately all around the outside of the spruce set out in 1928.



*This school ground planting at Treesbank, Man., cost little but the will to work together.*

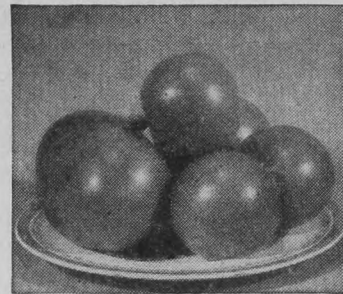
"The picture was taken from the south side in 1944 and shows two lilac bushes in full bloom with one of the spruces next and the old school house standing snugly in the background."

This, we learn, was a co-operative community enterprise and a lot of people helped. For example, Harry Vane laid out the land originally. Charles Ailsby broke it and later, with Carol Clark, supplied trucks to bring the trees from the bush and the prairie. Others who helped with the digging and planting included Harry and Cecil Vane, Alex Clark, Morley Brown, Alfred Farough and Eric Sundell, while the lilacs and caragana planted later came from Harry Vane's garden.

The result of all this has been worth while don't you think?



*This co-operative potato storage at Lumsden, Sask., filled a local need and will make for better marketing of better quality potatoes.*



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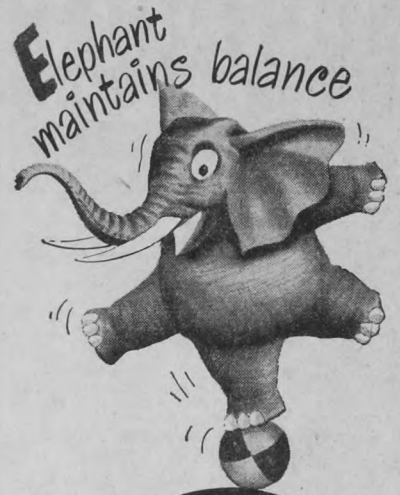
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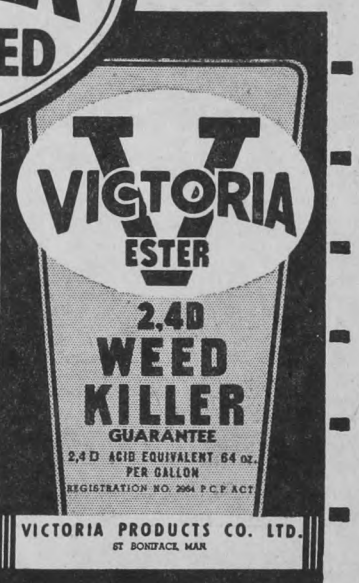
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White Leghorns	\$18.00	\$36.00
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96% accuracy on sexing and 100% live arrival guaranteed. For B.C. prices write our Chilliwack hatchery.

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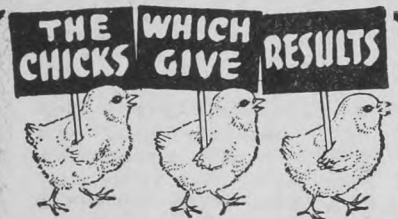
	100	50	25
	\$90.00	\$47.50	\$25.00

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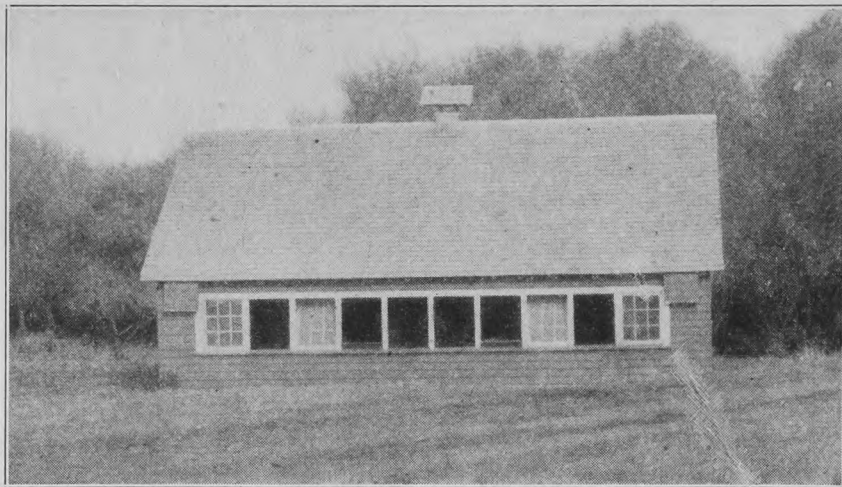
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## 1950 WILL BE A GOOD YEAR

TO BE IN. Because the In and Outers will be out. I was talking to a successful farmer friend of mine the other day and he told me he always adapted a policy of keeping a few more hens or hogs when the other fellow was going out. And keeping a few less when every person was going in. He said this policy always paid off. We predict high egg and poultry prices this Fall and Winter. High Quality Chicks will pay extra dividends. We can supply R.O.P. Sired Chicks in many breeds. Also Turkey Poults and Older Pullets. Free Catalogue.

**TOP NOTCH CHICK SALES**  
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# POULTRY



A clean, well-lighted and airy laying house is an important part of poultry production plans being made this winter. This house belongs to John Rankin, Hamiota, Manitoba.

## Egg Market Problem

THE Department of Trade and Commerce in Ottawa has taken export controls off poultry and eggs. The decision to allow these products to be dealt in freely is not altogether unexpected. The loss of the British market suggested that alternative markets would have to be found, and this became particularly true when prices of eggs on the Canadian market began to fall. It is now unnecessary for exporters to get permits to ship poultry or eggs to the United States, Europe, Latin America, the British West Indies, Alaska or Hawaii.

The impact of this change on egg sales is likely to be more apparent than real. Of late months it has been very easy to get permits to export eggs, so that few shipments have been held up. Also, in 1949 exports to the United States were only one-thirtieth of the exports to the United Kingdom under the 1949 contract. Added to this, the American market became less attractive to the Canadian producer when, in recent weeks, the support price for run-of-the-nest eggs was reduced from 35 to 25 cents a dozen in the United States.

The Canadian poultry producer is going to have to adjust to lower prices for his products and this at a time when his feed and labor costs are continuing high. The one thing that is pointed up most forcibly is that no one staying in the poultry business can afford to keep "boarders" which eat costly feed and give little in return. The high producers are the only birds likely to justify their continued existence in a period of high feed costs and lowered prices for poultry and poultry products.

## High Hatchability

A NUMBER of factors influence the final percentage of eggs that will hatch from a setting. Nutrition, incubation and methods of handling and storing eggs are important and all can be controlled to a large extent by either the flock owner or the hatcheryman. Lethal hereditary factors may cause the eggs of some birds to fail to hatch.

Obviously the per cent fertility plays an important part in the per cent of eggs that will hatch. About 90 per cent of all hatching eggs produced are expected to be fertile, but low fertility in some flocks can be a serious problem.

Nutrition of the flock during growth as well as at maturity can be respon-

sible for low fertility if it is not satisfactory for the development of vigorous birds. Good range conditions and proper housing facilities are also conducive to higher fertility.

Fertility tests conducted by Leonard Griesbach at the Dominion Experimental Station, Fredericton, N.B., indicate that males that mature very early are likely to be small, and therefore should be discarded. Selection should be limited to birds that show good comb development and other well-developed male characteristics when they are not more than six months of age. If fertility has become a problem the introduction of new blood may help, though this is likely to be of greater importance in small flocks where there is a limited opportunity for selection of males.

## More Chicken-Hours

IN September 1948, an electric timing device switch was put in our laying house, which switches the lights off and on. The timing switches are set to turn lights on at 4:30 in the morning and off again at eight. They go on again at six and off at nine in the evening. This gives the hens light over a long period of the day, and we have found it very profitable, as they stay in high production during the period of high egg prices.

In October 1948, 300 pullets produced up to 215 eggs a day. The flock produced over 200 eggs a day for more than three months. The birds were from stock that had been bred for size, production and livability, and cost nearly twice as much as the cheapest chicks available. They stood up under the long working day.

The timing device switches on a dimmer light when the main lights go off. This dimmer glows 12 minutes in the evening to give the birds time to get on the roosts.—C. A. Umosella.

## Fowl Coryza

CORYZA is an infectious disease that occurs wherever poultry is raised. It is caused by a bacteria, and should not be confused with colds caused by a virus, or the disease sunusitis in turkeys. Coryza does not cause heavy death losses, but reduces profits by reducing production in the winter months when egg prices are high.

The first symptom of the disease is straw sticking to the birds' beaks because of a watery, sticky discharge from the nostrils. Later sneezing will develop and the birds will breathe

# KILL CHICKEN LICE

and FEATHER MITES  
with

**"Black Leaf 40"**

It will pay you to use this simple, easy, economical method proved effective on thousands of poultry farms. Apply Black Leaf 40 to roosts with the handy Cap Brush. Fumes rise, killing lice and feather mites, while chickens perch. One ounce bottle treats 60 feet of roosts—90 chickens. Also available in larger sizes. Full directions in every package. Ask for Black Leaf 40, the dependable insecticide of many uses.



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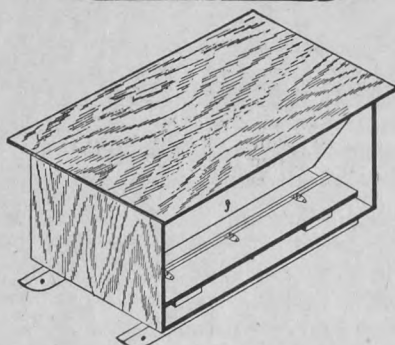
## 'Rheumatic Pain MADE IT HARD FOR ME TO GET ABOUT'

"For many years, I suffered a great deal from rheumatic pain in my legs and arms, particularly in my knees and shoulders," writes Mr. Pierre Camiray, Taschereau, P.Q. "Pain made it hard for me to get about and it was often difficult for me to sleep at night. It was a fortunate day for me when I learned of Templeton's T-R-C's and started using them. Since taking Templeton's T-R-C's, I feel like a new man. Although 65 years of age, I am able once more to work hard by day and sleep comfortably at night."

Don't suffer needlessly, when you may get quick, longed-for relief. Enjoy your work, enjoy your rest—try Templeton's T-R-C's today. Used and recommended by thousands for relief of wearisome, nagging Rheumatic, Arthritic, Neuritic, Sciatic pain; also Lumbago (lame back) and Neuralgia. 60c, \$1.25 at drug counters.

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Here's the second in the series of plans showing how you can use PV Brand PLYWOOD on the Farm. Get this plan and the previously advertised plan for a Plywood Hog House free of charge at your building supply dealer.

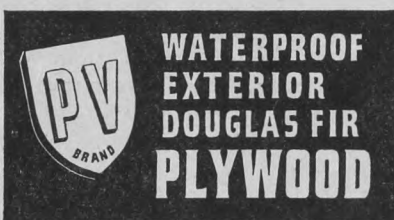
Increase your profits this winter with this Plywood Poultry Feed Hopper . . . it's easy to build . . . and inexpensive . . . takes only two sheets of PV Brand Water-proof Plywood. Easy-to-follow diagrams show how to cut the two sheets of plywood required.

Poultrymen know the importance of clean feed for good quality meat and eggs . . . it's easy to keep food clean with this Plywood Hopper. The large sheets reduce cracks to a minimum, keeping out vermin and moisture, (which creates mildew and rot). The smooth surface of PV Brand Plywood makes cleaning easy. Simple to build . . . the panels are so rigid and tough that no framing is required. You can nail close to the edges without splitting. Maintenance, time and cost are reduced. You get a greater return on each poultry dollar invested when you use the modern farm building material . . . PV Brand Plywood.

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38 years at your service since 1912.

through their mouths to ease breathing difficulties.

If an outbreak is caught in time, removal of damp litter, adjustment of the ventilators so that the birds get plenty of fresh air but no draughts, and increasing of the cod liver oil fed are helpful in controlling infection. Adding one-half pound of Epsom salts to two gallons of drinking water per 100 birds may be advisable. The further spread of infection will be retarded by adding enough potassium permanganate to the drinking water to give it a rich wine color.

The sulpha drug, sulphamethazine, is effective for coryza in poultry, advises the Dominion Experimental Farm, Brandon, Manitoba. Two and one-half teaspoons of the soluble powder can be added to each gallon of drinking water. Treatment should be continued for two or three days. If the treatment is started early, marked improvement, evidenced by a return to normal feeding, will be noticed within 24 hours.

### Litter For Chicks

**THE** Ohio Agricultural Station reports excellent results with built-up litter for chicks, as well as for hens. The procedure used is to sprinkle two to four inches of fine litter in the brooder house when starting the chicks. It is stirred every two or three days to prevent caking. The old litter is not removed, but fresh litter is added until it is six or more inches deep. If the litter cakes or gets damp, 10 to 15 pounds of hydrated lime is sprinkled per 100 square feet and is stirred well in, to prevent possible caustic effect on the chicks' feet.

At the Ohio Station the same litter has been used by as many as six broods with low mortality, and apparent control of coccidiosis.

### Chick Management

**I**N many cases, the success or failure of a poultry enterprise will depend upon the care the baby chicks receive during their first few weeks of life. All chickens, irrespective of their age, are sensitive creatures and re-act according to their surroundings. In the case of baby chicks, the first few weeks are 'very critical'. The amount of heat they receive is very important since they have very little protection against low temperatures. A good rule to follow is to have the thermometer, which should hang on the outer edge of the canopy about one and one-half to two inches above the floor, register 95 to 100 degrees for the first week. For each succeeding week, lower the temperature five degrees.

Notice if chicks crowd under the brooder stove or seek the cooler parts of the house. In the first case it is too cold and in the second, it is too warm. At night, the chicks should form a ring around the outer edge of the canopy if the temperature is properly adjusted. Fluctuations in temperature will be at a minimum if the stove is kept full of coal. At no time should there be a lot of flame, just a mass of red coals. This is not a problem with oil brooders.

The feed hoppers and water fountains should be spaced around the canopy for the first few days after which time they can be moved farther from the brooder stove. Allow one inch of hopper space for each chick at hatching time and double this at about 10 days of age.

# HOW TO KEEP CHICKS ALIVE AND HEALTHY

Every year countless chicks die because of faulty management. Many others manage to stay alive but they will never, because of poor health, be profit makers for their owners. Successful poultry farming demands the type of good management outlined below. Check to see if a neglect of any basic rule is costing you money.



**1 BROODER HOUSE** — Unless the brooder house is new, it should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before chicks move in . . . preferably a month before to allow for complete drying. Wash down (preferably with a pressure hose) and use a strong hot lye solution and stiff push brush to remove caked material. Disinfect when dry. All equipment should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.



**2 FEEDING** — Chicks should be fed before they are 36 hours old. Allow each chick one inch of hopper space for the first five weeks, and then allow two inches. Until chicks are six to eight weeks old, feed Miracle Chick Starter. A perfectly balanced and scientifically tested feed, Miracle Chick Starter contains all the elements needed — proteins, carbohydrates, fats, vitamins and minerals — to bring your chicks through the dangerous early stage in good health and vigour. Feed chicks amply enough so that they will not eat the litter. Also see that they have plenty of fresh water, lukewarm for the first five days, and sprinkle grit on top of Miracle Chick Starter three times a week.



**3 CHANGING LITTER** — Change litter when too dirty or damp. Disinfect when necessary. Try to keep litter absolutely dry by turning every day and stirring thoroughly with a fork.



**4 BROODER TEMPERATURE** — Chicks are ruined by too much heat and also by too little. The brooder temperature (95° under brooder is usual) should be accurately adjusted according to climatic and brooder house conditions before they move in. After the first week, reduce the brooder temperature about 1° a day until chicks are seven to eight weeks old when the brooder should no longer be needed.



**5 VENTILATION** — Chicks need plenty of fresh, pure air. Brooder houses should be adequately ventilated and the ventilation should be gradually increased to acclimatize birds to natural weather conditions. A foot-high guard around the hover will protect chicks from draughts.



**6 SELECTION OF LITTER** — No litter is perfect, but tests have shown that litters made from either wood shavings, peat moss or straw, are more satisfactory than some other types. A deep layer with good absorptive power is necessary. To ensure cleanliness, litter can be covered with newspaper for first few days, and top sheet of paper removed once daily or oftener.



**7 6 TO 8 WEEKS** — When chicks are six to eight weeks old, keep building a profit-making flock by gradually mixing in Miracle Growing Mash until this is the complete diet. Miracle Growing Mash is specially compounded to supply all the needs of pullets . . . to mature them earlier and get them into production around five months. Pullets also develop a sturdy frame capable of withstanding heavy laying.

## "MIRACLE" CHICK STARTER

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W. H. McLELLAN, Manager

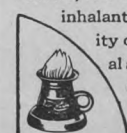
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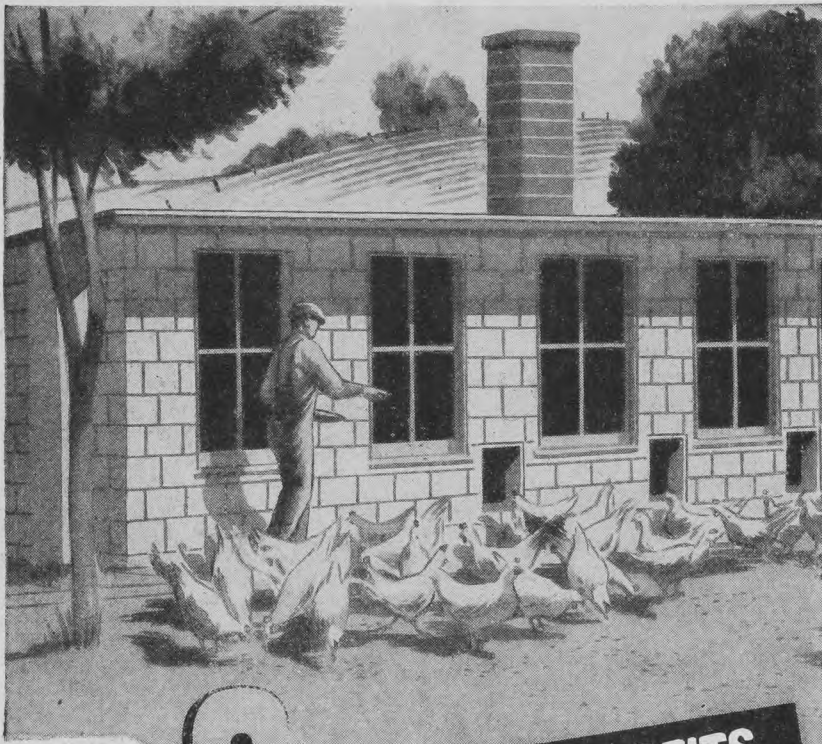
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Some of Mr. Boyes' purebred Shorthorns. The cow to the right is four years old and has had four calves—first one when she was two, twins when she was three and she now has a calf at foot.

## Farming Is A Thinking Matter

*This Kelvington, Saskatchewan farmer has a balanced farm program and raises high quality products*

**T**OM BOYES, Kelvington, Saskatchewan, was probably a good arithmetic student when he went to school. He still is not too bad at solving problems. He can figure out in less time than it takes to tell that if he farms well enough to increase his gross production five bushels per acre at an additional cost equivalent to one bushel of wheat, he stands to be ahead a matter of four bushels on each seeded acre. At the same time he calculates that if he raises top quality products that demand a premium on the market he is also likely to be ahead on that count. However, if a farmer is going to raise good quality, pure seed and high quality purebred cattle he must know seed and he must know cattle and he must enjoy that type of careful farming. Mr. Boyes seems to enjoy raising the best in seed and cattle and no one can deny that he does it well.

The farm is made up of a section of owned land and an additional rented quarter. The herd consists of about 35 head of purebred Shorthorns, which includes 12 cows, their calves and other young stock. Two Holstein cows are kept to provide milk.

One of the factors that can lead to good farming is education. Mr. Boyes got his education on his father's farm which is in Scotland between Glasgow and Loch Lomond. His father raised purebred sheep and Ayrshire cattle, and shipped milk to the market in Glasgow. Seven years after young Tom came to Canada, in 1920, he was

getting into the business of raising registered oats, and a few years after that he was also raising registered wheat and purebred cattle.

He raises good cattle but he raises them without too much expense. He has no natural pasture, and raises all of his feed on the farm. This may be a little easier at Kelvington than it would be on the prairies in the brown and dark brown soil zones. In any case the feed comes from 70 acres seeded to a mixture of brome and alfalfa with some crested wheat grass thrown in. He chops the screenings that he cleans out of his registered seed and feeds the cattle a ration of grain all winter. Straw figures fairly large in the winter feeding program, supplemented, of course, with grain. In order to get the straw readily, he cuts and threshes a matter of 100 acres not too far from the buildings. In view of the fact that he sells mostly breeding stock he is not faced with the additional problem of fitting his cattle for market so needs less feed grain than would otherwise be the case.

**F**IELD management on this farm is also interesting. As indicated above he began to produce registered oats over 20 years ago. In 1936 he acquired enough certified Thatcher to seed 30 acres and from the next year on he has raised no wheat that could not be registered. Last year he raised 150 acres of registered Thatcher. The rest of the seeded acreage was in registered Victory oats.

Mr. Boyes summerfallows his land

Below: Mr. Boyes in a field of elite Thatcher wheat.



Above: Mr. Boyes leaves a band of trees around each quarter when he clears. On this quarter he has left 50 acres of bush, which shelters the field and collects snow.

Guide photos.

every other year. He finds that in this way he can control weeds, which is important for everyone and vital for the registered seed grower. He does not burn any stubble or straw, and finds that if he uses a straw spreader on the combine that he can work the straw into the soil with a one-way. The bad weed in this eastern Saskatchewan area is perennial sow thistle, and it may be that control with 2,4-D will make it possible to reduce summerfallow to every third year. If this should prove to be true, straw disposal will become a pressing problem demanding solution.

The labor load is evenly distributed throughout the year in this type of farming operation. Mr. Boyes and his son Ian—who was awarded his diploma in Agriculture from the School of Agriculture in Saskatoon in 1946—find that they and one man are kept busy enough throughout the year. In the summer the field work, care of the cattle, haying and so on keep them busy. In the winter there is plenty to do with feeding cattle and cleaning grain.

Mr. Boyes does his bit in the improvement of local agricultural practice. Some neighbors may do as much but no one would deny that the Boyeses carry their share. For the last three years Mr. Boyes has been president of the local Agricultural Society. The Agricultural Society sponsors the Kelvington Calf Club and the Kelvington Grain Club. The Calf Club has a membership varying from 18 to 22. The calves are shown in Kelvington and then are taken to the Yorkton Fat Stock Show where they are exhibited and sold. Mr. Boyes has been the club leader since the fall of 1945.

Perhaps the most distinctive achievement on the Boyeses' farm is the balancing of farm enterprises to give an even labor load throughout the 12 months of the year, and at the same time the maintaining of a relationship between these enterprises such that each one adds to the economy of the other. The cattle provide a profitable way of marketing screenings. At the same time the cattle provide fertilizer for the fields and permit the economical raising of hay crops which serve to improve the soil. All combine to make the farming operations a full time job for the people on the farm.—R.O.H.

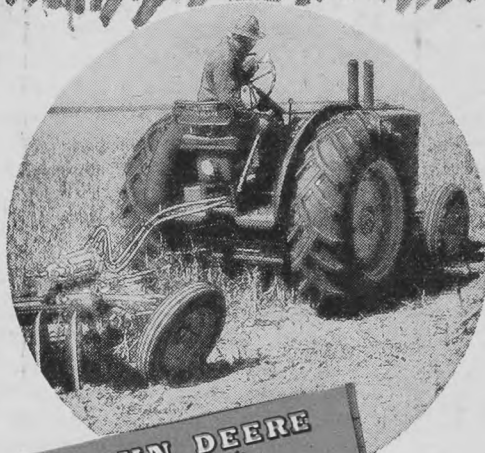
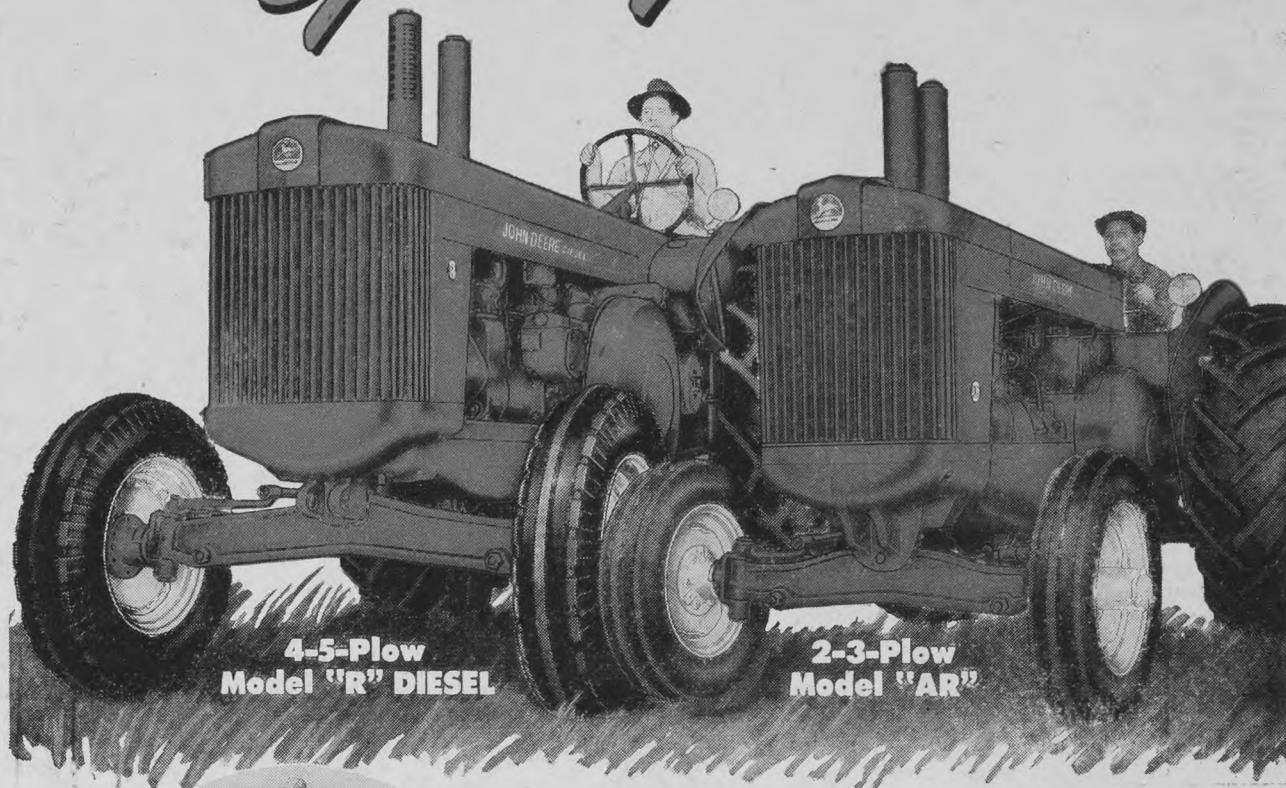
### New Land In Australia

ONE of Australia's oldest life insurance companies proposes to acquire a tract of land in the south-eastern part of South Australia, and to launch a large-scale agricultural development program.

The area selected is southeast of Adelaide, bordering the coast. It is known as the Coorong, or the "90-mile Desert." It is of particular interest to agricultural scientists. Their records indicate that the country has a dependable and adequate supply of rainfall, but productivity is limited by deficiencies of zinc and copper in the soil. Initial applications of seven pounds of zinc and copper sulphate have been found to correct the deficiencies for at least four years, at a cost of about five shillings.

The insurance company hopes that by correcting the soil deficiencies they will be able to establish good permanent pastures on these soils that have been considered useless.

# Open Your Eyes



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Both the Models "R" and "AR" offer you effortless, touch-of-your-hand control of drawn equipment through John Deere hydraulic Powr-Trol. There's no reaching and stretching for implement lifting levers, no tugging on ropes, no raising and lowering heavy equipment by hand. A double-action remote cylinder, operated by a convenient lever, raises and lowers the implement or sets it to work at any in-between position you select. Operates fast or slow, as long as the engine is running. A feature of John Deere Tractors since 1945, Powr-Trol is the field-proved answer to easier, faster, better farming.

## These John Deere Standard-Tread Tractors Are a Revelation in Power, Speed, Economy, and Ease of Handling

You've no idea of the great forward strides John Deere has made in standard-tread tractor design until you see and drive one of these sparkling new performers in the field. Here is power to get you through the tough spots, to work your equipment at maximum capacity and cut days off your working calendar. Here is proved *two-cylinder* economy that will save you money on fuel and maintenance. Here is comfort and ease of handling such as you've never before experienced.

The Model "R" hits the nail right on the head with big-power users. Its great new Diesel engine is breaking all records for low fuel costs. The Model "R" is a modern tractor through and through—with five-speed transmission, direct engine-driven power shaft, electric starting and lighting equipment, and many other advanced features.

The Model "AR" meets the complete needs of farmers who want full two- or three-plow power. It is available with either all-fuel or more powerful gasoline engine. Like the Model "R," the new "AR" is strictly modern—way ahead of the field in design.

For new performance that will open your eyes, try one of these tractors in the field. Your John Deere dealer will be glad to arrange a demonstration.

## JOHN DEERE PLOW COMPANY, Limited

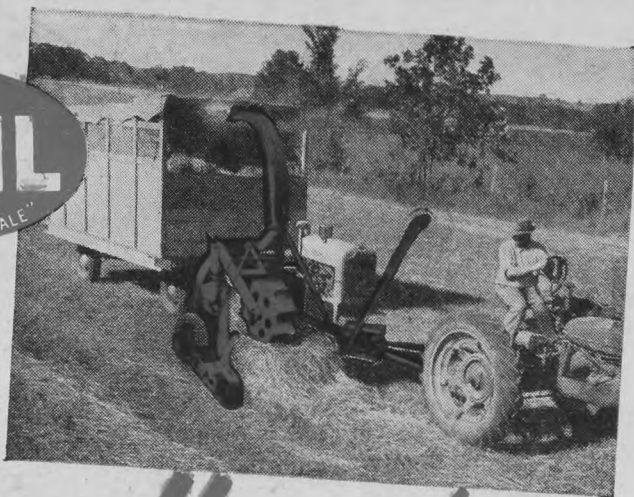
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This "AR" and hydraulically-operated Surflex Tiller make a combination that can't be beat for big capacity and low tillage costs.





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more*



## Forage Harvesters than any other specialized manufacturer!

● Gehl was one of the first to develop a forage harvester, and the first Gehl built, over seven years ago, is still operating successfully. Thousands of users agree that the Gehl Forage Harvester leads in better cutting, all-round performance and value per dollar. Its superior cutting ability is inherited from Gehl feed cutters and silo fillers famous for half a century. It does an equally fine job in either windrowed hay or standing corn. The Gehl is built to stand up year after year.

An official survey reports that each field forage harvester used "saved 390 man hours... more labor saved per machine than any other type of harvester."

Compare the Gehl, ask a Gehl owner, and you'll choose a Gehl. The Gehl is powered either with its own motor... or a power take-off from tractor.

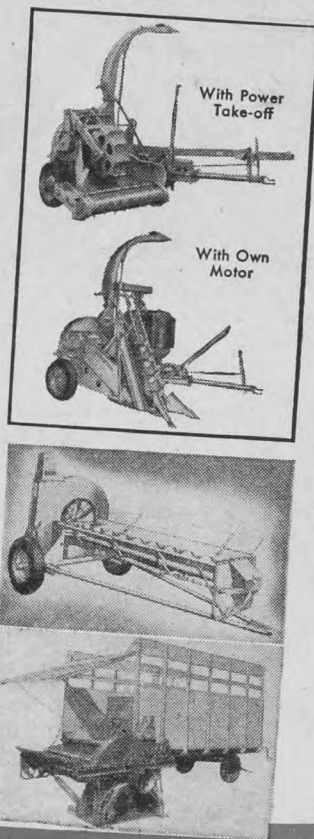
### Gehl Equipment Does The Complete Forage Job From Field to Storage

Gehl Forage Blower elevates any forage into highest silo or mow. Can be equipped with power take-off to operate new Gehl Self-Unloading Wagon, and others. You can get...

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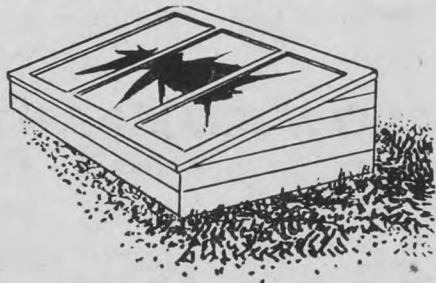


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## FARM YOUNG PEOPLE



J. E. Bonar, Wawota, Saskatchewan, sends us this picture of Dave Rogers' 30-year-old mare Flip, with children from two Rogers' families aboard.

### Farm Co-operative Club

*Both planned and incidental co-operation enters into almost every activity of this Michigan Farm Club*

THE young people who make up the chapter of the Future Farmers of America at Cassopolis, Michigan, are doing themselves, their community and their county, a lot of good. They have developed an excellent program that is calculated to make their members better farmers and better citizens.

Members are interested in parliamentary procedure, because training in this line enables the members, when the time comes, to run their community organizations, co-operatives and farm organizations smoothly and well. For the last two years members from this club have won the \$100 prize awarded for supremacy in the State competitions. Last year they used the money to make a down payment on three dairy heifers purchased by the club dairy co-op. The rest of the money was borrowed from the bank.

Members can borrow up to \$25 from the club for the financing of their own operations. Interest is charged at the rate of two per cent. If more money is needed it is borrowed by the member from the local bank. If the club credit committee approves the member's application to the bank, the loan is made, with interest at four per cent. The member must insure his loan with the club.

The chapter also owns \$2,300 worth of machinery, including a tractor, which members can rent very cheaply. When the machinery is returned the machinery committee checks it over to see if it has been misused. If it has, the guilty member is not allowed to borrow machinery for two weeks.

Much more could be written about the activities of this club. Mention should be made of the fact that members picked apples until they earned \$100, and then chipped in the money to send one of their number to the International Livestock Show at Chicago. A great deal could be said about the 125-acre farm that the young people have rented on a five-year lease, and on which they are developing a soil-building program. Mention could be made of the co-operative purchase of certain feeds by the club, which are handled for members, with

savings to all concerned. And mention must be made of Ross Beatty, vocational agriculture teacher, who is a tower of strength in club deliberations, and of local merchants who put up \$1,000 as prizes for club projects.

These are all details. The really important thing is that the young people have the right attitude, plenty of initiative, and are supported by an interested and enthusiastic community. All of these combine to make possible the running of a really good club, the developing of better farming techniques in the community, and the development of better rural citizens.

### Games For The Party

EVEN in the best organized rural youth groups programs get upset at the last minute, but if the recreation leader has a few entertainment ideas in reserve, the problem is solved.

If members do not insist on standing on their dignity, the gap in the activities can be closed with a "whisk relay." All that is required is two corks, two whisk brooms, and a hat in which to put numbers from one up to the number of people present. Everyone draws a number, even numbers go on one team, odd on the other. Someone shouts "go," and the first person from each team starts to brush his team's cork to a goal line 10 or 15 feet away. When he gets back the second person takes over and repeats the procedure. The first team finished wins.

Another interesting event consists of bringing in a tray loaded with 20 diverse items ranging from a bottle opener to a postage stamp. The tray should be covered when it is brought in, the cloth then removed, everyone allowed to observe the items for one minute, the cover replaced and the contestants required to write down the items that they have observed.

If this is not enough, divide the group into couples, give one member a cup of water and a spoon and the other member a bib. Partner A feeds the water to partner B and the team who first empties their cup—no spilling remember—wins the competition.

## Rapeseed Oil

Continued from page 13

Copra and palm plantations in the Far East were badly hit by the war, but they are being restored, and in a few years production will reach normal level. Rape oil cannot hope to compete with industrial oils imported from the cheap labor areas of the Far East.

On the other hand, in 1948 world demands for edible oils was still 800 million pounds above world production. In spite of bumper oil crops in the United States last year this situation is expected to last.

Currently there is a glut of oils on the North American market, because there are no dollars available in the world to buy United States food. Prices are now at a nearly all-time low on this continent.

Before he goes into rape, the Canadian farmer has to ask "Will the price be right?" and the manufacturer, "Will the market be there?" Right now, because it hinges on American dollars, the answer to both questions is "No." If we barred United States oil to some extent by insisting on the use of Canadian oil, the situation would be much improved. Farmers could then grow rape profitably, and a large item of expenditure in the States would be eliminated.

If rapeseed oil is to compete with other vegetable and animal oils as a food, the 1948 price of six cents a pound will certainly not be maintained. The price of lard as fixed in the United States in 1942 was 13.8 cents. If this is used as a basis from which to deduce the normally expected price of rapeseed, the figure arrived at is slightly more than four cents per pound. Average production per acre in 1948 was 1,200 pounds, and the oil content of rapeseed is 35 to 40 per cent. However, agriculturists estimate that considerable rape would be grown even at a price of three cents a pound.

As for the market; it can be expected to hold indefinitely. India is not expected to export any more edible oils, and China, as a source of supply, is uncertain in the extreme.

**T**HE Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations cites figures which indicate that the world will always be in the market for Canadian food. Even during the nine disastrous years from 1938 to 1947 the population of Europe, outside Russia, increased by 13 million. Russia's population rose nine million.

In the last 24 hours half the people of the world got less than 2,250 calories, a figure that is considered to be the minimum emergency level for subsistence. There is a very definite question as to whether the world's population can be kept off the starvation roster.

Rape oil produced in the West could be a partial answer to this question. It has twice the calorific value of protein or carbohydrate, and one of its by-products is good stock feed. Rape could help maintain the peace of the world, and in doing so, diversify the agriculture of the West and put dollars into the pocket of the farmer.

ED. NOTE: *The desirability of protection of some kind for edible oils grown in Canada is the author's opinion and not necessarily that of The Guide.*

# Farm Service Facts

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IMPERIAL OIL LIMITED

## FACTS ABOUT 1-PLOW TRACTORS

The 1-pow tractor has brought "power farming" to thousands of farms that were formerly barred from it... and is helping to increase their production and income by getting field work done in proper season, and by giving the owners more time to devote to livestock and poultry. On many large farms, it is cutting costs by handling the light hauling, haymaking, row-crop cultivation, and "odd jobs" inexpensively, and leaving their big outfits free to work without interruption.

In speaking about "the 1-pow tractor", we are not referring to any particular make. There are several makes on the market, with draw-bar ratings between 9 and 14 h.p., which are generally classified as 1-pow tractors.



Plows  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  acres a day.

The need and place for tractors of this size in Canadian agriculture is shown by the sales figures. More than 7,500 were bought by Canadian farmers in 1948, and it seems probable that an equal or greater number were bought in 1949. Final figures for 1949 are not available at time of writing.

### 3-HORSE FIELD WORK... PLUS BELT POWER

In normal field work, a 1-pow tractor will do as much as a team of three 1200-lb. horses... often more. Take plowing, for instance. Most 1-pow tractors will turn a 12 or 14-inch furrow at 3 to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles an hour... turn over  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  acres in a day... which is considerably more than an average team can do. The same applies to cultivating, seeding or mowing... a 1-pow tractor will handle as large an implement as a 3-horse team, at an equal or faster rate of travel... and get much more work done per day because it doesn't have to stop to rest or to cool off.

In hauling loads from field to barn, or from farm to town, a 1-pow tractor may be almost as good as two teams, because of its faster rate of travel. On a smooth road, with a

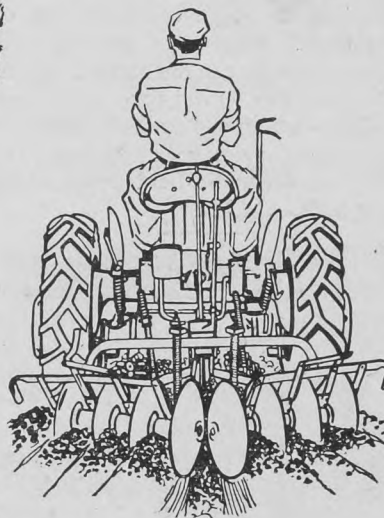
rubber-tired wagon gear, it will haul a 2-to-3-ton load at 6 or 7 miles an hour.

And in addition to supplying draw-bar power, most 1-pow tractors can be used for light-to-medium belt work... feed grinding, pumping, sawing wood, etc.

### MOUNTED TOOLS FOR GREATEST EFFICIENCY

One reason for the quick popularity of the 1-pow tractor is the availability of specially-designed quick-mounted tools for different kinds of farm work. Manufacturers have been quicker to provide mounted tools for these small tractors than for their larger models. Such tools increase the efficiency of the tractor... help to make it outstandingly efficient for its size.

On the average, a 1-pow tractor uses only about a gallon of gasoline per hour. With specially-designed tools to increase its efficiency, it turns out a surprising amount of finished work per gallon of fuel.



Uses only about 1 gallon of gasoline per hour.

### DOESN'T PAY TO OVERLOAD IT

For anyone who is thinking about buying a 1-pow tractor, a word of caution may be in order. It does a splendid job within the limits of its power range, but it will *not* handle implements (or loads) that are intended for a 2-pow tractor. For example, most 1-pow tractors will roll along sweetly with a 5-or-6-foot single disc, but if you hitch it to a 5-foot double disc, you are courting trouble. The same principle applies to other operations. It pays to follow the manufacturer's recommendations in regard to maximum loads.

Being light in weight, the 1-pow tractor may be more subject to wheel slippage and loss of traction than a heavier machine... but this can be corrected by the addition of wheel weights or liquid in tires.

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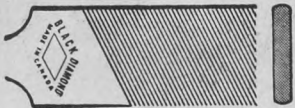
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1



BLACK DIAMOND FLAT

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For regular type chains. Two rounded edges for smoothing gullets. Lengths: 6", 7" and 8".

2

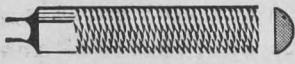


BLACK DIAMOND ROUND BLUNT

CHAIN SAW FILE

For sharpening both standard chisel and hooded chisel type chains. Cross sections:  $\frac{1}{4}$ ",  $\frac{5}{16}$ " and  $\frac{3}{8}$ ". Length: 8".

3



BLACK DIAMOND HALF ROUND

CHAIN SAW FILE

Recommended for chains with "hooked" raker teeth. Flat side for filing cutters. Length: 6"; cross section:  $\frac{5}{32}$ " x  $\frac{5}{16}$ ".

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## Workshop In February

Repairs should be ordered and overhauls underway

### Pad For Tractor Seat

Sweat pads make the tractor seat more comfortable. They can be made by cutting and sewing as in the

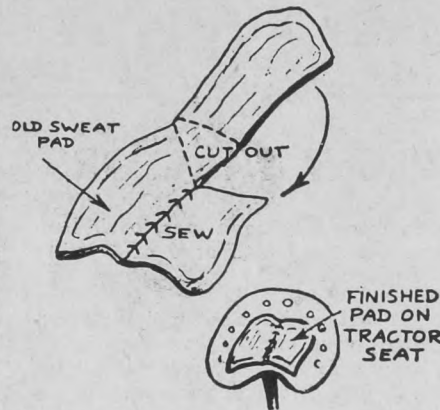
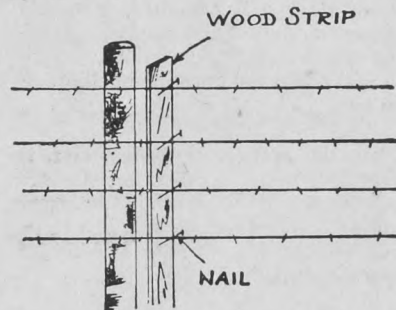


diagram. Canvas straps or string can be sewn to the pad and used to tie it securely to the seat.—M.V.S.

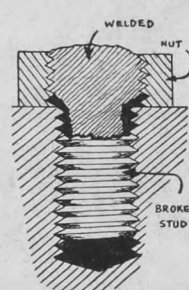
### Fence Wire Spacer

A simple gauge to hold fence wires while they are being stapled makes the job easier and much neater. I use a three-inch board and drive in nails at the height of the wires. When all



the wires are stapled, a slight tap on the board, near the ground, will loosen it so it can be moved to the next post. For woven wire jobs, I put the top wire on the top nail and hold the bottom down with my foot. The other wires can be held down under their nails.—C.J.H.

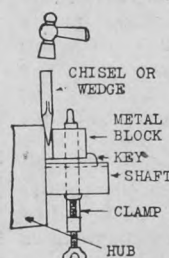
### Broken Studs



An arc welding machine can be used to remove broken studs more easily than any other method. A large nut is placed over the hole in which the stud has broken. Build up the stud by weld-

ing onto it and then weld to the nut. The stud should turn out without difficulty as the heating of the welder will loosen it and a large wrench can be applied.—W.F.S.

### Pulling Tight Keys

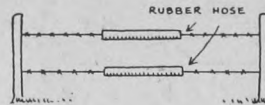


This method of pulling a tight key has many variations and can be adapted to suit a multitude of situations. The idea is to use a metal block against the head of the key. It is clamped on the shaft to hold

it in place and a chisel or wedge is driven down between the block and the hub of the wheel or pulley which is keyed to the shaft. For purposes of illustration the block is shown thicker than it should be.—W.S.

### Safety Fences

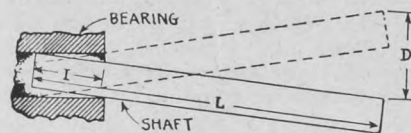
Short lengths of rubber hose should be pulled over the barbed wire where



people wish to pass through. They prevent your clothes from being caught and torn and they also insulate a person against electric shock.—J.Z.

### Measuring Bearing Clearances

Bearing clearances can be measured without the use of delicate instruments. Take the length of the shaft—length L. Insert the shaft back into the bearing a convenient distance—I. Move the end of the shaft up and



down and measure from one extreme to the other—D. If there is no clearance, D will be zero. To calculate the clearance, use the formula

$$C = \frac{D \times I}{2L - I}$$

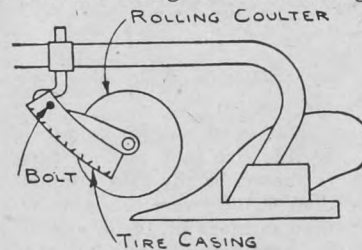
Thus if D is  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch; I is 1 inch; and L is 10 inches. Clearance is

$$\frac{\frac{1}{4} \times 1}{20 - 1} = \frac{1}{4 \times 19} = \frac{1}{76} = .01316 \text{ inches}$$

It is obvious that this method is also useful for determining if a bearing is out of round. It is done by measuring the clearance in several directions.—W.F.S.

### Coulter Trash Shield

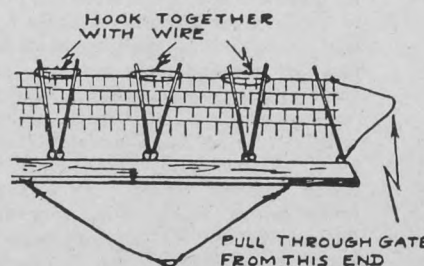
Where weeds and heavy stubble cause the coulter of the plow to plug up, a trash shield can be made from an old tire casing. Bolt the casing in



place as shown and split it in the centre so the coulter can run in the slit. The trash will be pushed down when the coulter blade slices through it.—A.R.

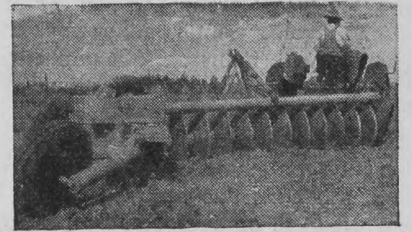
### Taking Harrow Through Gate

When wide strings of harrows have to be moved through narrow gates, it can be done most easily by pulling them from the end. Put a chain on



the end section and tie the backs of the sections together. Lay the drawbar back over the harrows and the outfit will pass through an eight-foot gate.—P.P.

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Harbinger—(j-), n., One who announces another's approach, forerunner.  
—Oxford Dictionary.

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## Dog versus Magpie

*Klinker meets his master*

**W**E were very interested in your recent article concerning the magpie; there is no adjective fitting enough to describe this wily fellow's cunning and cupidity!

Three years ago we bought our own farm, quite close to the creek it is, and what a joy to gather eggs in the barn with the beauties of nature right before us! However, the beauties receded with my wonderment—why weren't the hens laying better?

Hubby suggested one day I make several trips to the barn and henhouse during the day. That way, I might encounter the intruder or thief—if such was the case. I did. It, or they, flew by me as I entered the barn door and behind them I found the cracked and broken eggs. Uninterrupted, the magpies will carry them away. Thenceforward, the doors were shut!

This winter a carcass of a dead deer lay a few rods south of the barn. "Pup," our 110-pound Klinker, found to his astonishment, that all his weight and lusty growl were no match for the swift cunning of a magpie.



*The magpies defeated him.*

One day, with a bark angry enough to put fear into the heart of the bravest, Pup dashed to his "meat" where seven or eight magpies were busily helping themselves. They dispersed quickly, all but the one, who flew to a low fence post nearby and flapped his wings insolently at the big dog.

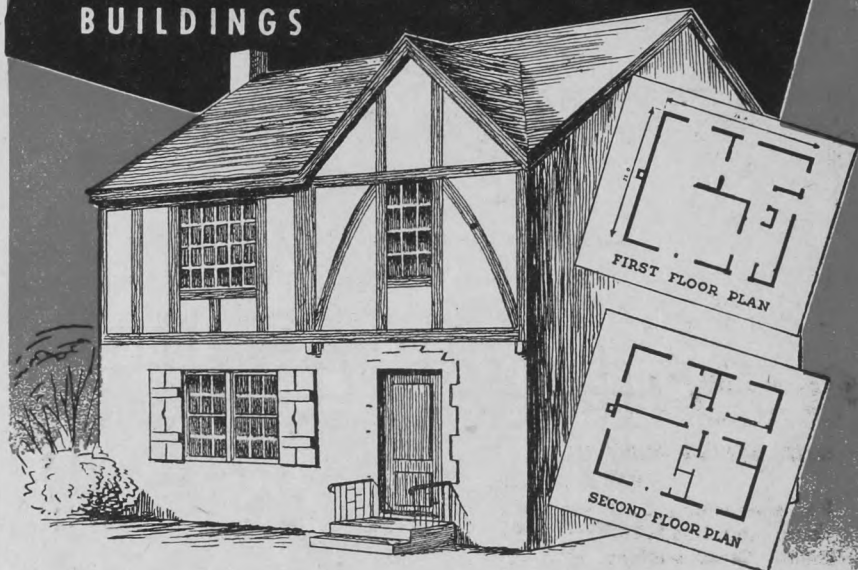
Here was his chance indeed. Pup dashed eagerly to the post, mouth open and bristles rising! Alas, the high bank on which he stood was far from the post and the snow between soft and deep. He glared at the bird. The bird grinned—if I may say so—right back. Then, with a flip of his tail, he flew slowly to another nearby post, only to be followed by Pup. This really looked easy. Now for that thief!

It was no go! High this post was but the bank was low. Again the wily bird was safe.

Eight times the magpie led the now fuming dog from post to bank and bank to post. Suddenly, Pup glanced out of the corner of an angry eye. Six magpies calmly finished their stolen feast whilst their brother played peek-a-boo with the dog.

This was more than even a dog could bear. With a shamefaced look at the triumphant birds, Pup slunk away. I met him at the door; he sat slumped on his haunches and looked at me with his beautiful brown eyes. "Did you ever see the like?" he seemed to ask.—Margaret Dunham, Sask.

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vited to take advantage of the professional advice offered by your nearest lumber merchant.

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Perhaps you're right — if you've been using *ordinary* weed killers. There are all kinds of weeds — some tougher than others — and experience shows that no one weed killer works equally well on all weeds.

That's why Dow offers you a *full line* of weed killers — each developed for special weed problems. Where weeds are tough, hard-to-kill, try Esteron 44, Esteron Dust No. 5, Esteron Brush Killer or Esteron 245. Each of these dependable, field-tested Dow products is made for tough weeds or brush. Where the problem is in wheat or other small grains, try Esteron 44 or Esteron Dust No. 5, excellent 2,4-D ester

formulations that have proved effective on thousands of Canadian farms. For weed problems along roadsides, fencerows, ditchbanks and other places where brush is a problem, try Esteron Brush Killer or Esteron 245, both containing esters of the new chemical 2,4,5-T.

Where weeds are average — not overly hard-to-kill — ask your Dow dealer about 2-4 Dow Weed Killer, Formula 40 — the finest 2,4-D amine salt weed killer made today. Whether it's amine or ester, a spray or a dust, look to Dow for dependable weed killers — the *right* weed killer for *your* weed problem.

#### FIELD NOTES

##### New Product for Grass Control



Grass can be just as big a problem as other weeds. To combat undesirable grass, Dow has developed a new chemical spray — Dow Sodium TCA 90%. Applied in low dosages, this new chemical will kill most annual grasses and retard perennial grass, leaving roots to control erosion. In higher dosages, Dow Sodium TCA 90% will give effective control over such perennial grasses as quack, timothy and Canadian blue grass. Dow Sodium TCA 90% has many interesting applications where grass is a serious problem.

**A More Powerful Dairy Spray**  
Dow Lindane — 25% — Wettable offers dairy farmers new opportunities to control flies more effectively. Applied as a residual spray to walls, ceilings, refuse piles and other breeding and resting places, Lindane retains its killing power for from 3 to 6 weeks. It has also proved effective against certain flies which have shown resistance to DDT. Lindane also can be used effectively in controlling sarcoptic mange mite. Dow Lindane — 25% — Wettable brings new standards of fly control within the reach of every dairyman.

##### Penta-Treated Posts Cut Fencing Costs

Dow Wood Preservative, containing Pentachlorophenol, can actually cut fencing costs. Applied to posts it will control termites and decay, increasing post life by years. That means less time and money wasted in replacing posts. Dow Wood Preservative can be applied right on the farm without any special equipment. It leaves the wood clean and easy to handle, yet provides effective, lasting protection.

Further information on any of these products is available at your Dow dealer. Or write Dow Chemical of Canada, Limited, 204 Richmond St. W., Toronto 1, Canada.

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Esteron 44. A superior ester weed killer.



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## Our Customers

*This farmer uses a mailing and phoning list to contact possible customers for his specialty products*

by JAS. SHOEMAKER

I HAVE been keeping a number of mailing lists since the last war, and of course they are brought up to date each January. I circularize them whenever I have any farm product for sale. My lists include names of the residents of towns and nearby cities, and also city folks who go to the country, with some note as to the occupation and financial standing of each person. I also have a complete list of the farmers in the three countries adjacent to my own.

Within the last three years I have made a list of 3,200 names. Each person is a prospective buyer of something that we have for sale. Whenever we have a product that is particularly hard to market or which may be wasted, I go through my mailing lists and pick out the most probable buyers. I mail each a card stating what we have to offer and its price. I have found that after each announcement we sell out in a few days.

At Thanksgiving in 1946 there was a drop in turkey prices. The best offer I could get from a wholesaler for the lot I wanted to sell would have brought me about \$125.00. The turkeys were fat and high quality. I went through my list and picked out 55 names of business and professional men who had always had turkey for Thanksgiving and Christmas and mailed cards to them telling what I had and my price at their door. I received 60 orders. My information passed from one to another and reached beyond the limits of my list. I had to go out and buy five turkeys to fill the orders. My 55 turkeys brought over \$250.00.

In my lists I don't forget my fruit and berry pickers in the winter; they want a half hog, sweet potatoes, apples, chickens and other products which we store. I quote a price and they drop a card if and when they want me to ship. We have six families that work all through the season after all our apples and sweet potatoes are placed in storage. To my list I either add or delete. In 1947 I lost five on account of death; in 1948 I added 12 new ones. I find they buy anything that we have for sale. Now our best customers have our telephone number and they call us up to announce a coming visit to our place or when they wish us to ship. My first names were copied from the long distance telephone directory and the new customers tell others each season. It is a common experience to have to go out and buy something to fill their orders. Mailing lists are a blessing to all concerned.

#### Sheep Introduced

PEOPLE living on a mile-high plateau in the central highlands of New Guinea were vegetarians and gardeners. Recently, they have seen sheep for the first time in history. An Australian army officer, backed by a wealthy industrialist, has established a sheep ranch amidst the primitive Papuan tribesmen. The sheep are English Romney Marsh and the native men and women will be taught sheep-herding and weaving.

## Small Farm House

Continued from page 12

separator and a special niche for storage of the washing machine. The cistern pump could be put at one end of the stationary tubs. This serves as a place where the men may wash up, after coming in from the barn or fields. This compact arrangement of kitchen and work area equipment may, at first glance, seem cramped. Further study will show that the plan is well worked out for storage of supplies and the sequence of kitchen tasks. It is

### Ordering House Plans

Working Drawings for A Small Farm House may be obtained in blueprint form by ordering The Country Guide Plan No. 3. Included with the blueprint sheets are suggestions to aid in the selection of materials, general specifications and a bill of the materials for a nominal charge of \$2.50 post-paid in Canada. Send orders to The Country Guide Plan Service, 290 Vaughan St., Winnipeg, Manitoba.

designed simply as a work area with the thought that the housewife and other members of the household will spend their hours of relaxation, rest or visiting in other rooms.

The rear door is at grade level, down three steps from the main floor. A coat closet is located off the entrance landing for storage of work clothes, shoes and rubbers. From this landing stairs go directly to the basement. This is a convenience and work-saver when storing vegetables and bulk supplies. It will also save much tracking of kitchen floors in muddy weather. The back door is sheltered by an easily constructed porch which provides considerable space for wood storage.

THE front door opens onto a small vestibule, which also provides for coat storage. The front entrance is the only spot where any decorative treatment has been applied. This has been done with the simplest of materials—ordinary 2"x4"s. These may be painted to correspond with the trim of the house. A screen of vines in summer or a painted lattice may be added, if you wish to shut off the view of the back door from the front. The idea of having both doors at one end of the house may seem a novel and radical

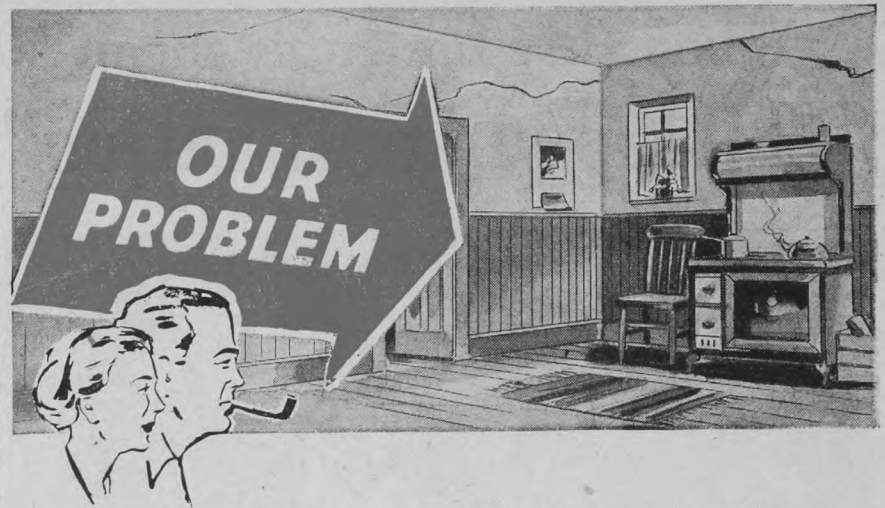
one. It merits careful consideration. It should appeal to the thoughtful person who realizes how valuable living space is frequently cut up needlessly by doorways. Both entrances, as designed, will serve to break drafts when doors are opened in cold weather.

A full-size basement provides adequate space for a number of desirable features in a modern house. There is a place for a large concrete cistern, a furnace room and a fuel storage bin. Storage area for vegetables and fruits is closed off by a wall from the furnace room. The stairway from the floor above leads into a space which can be used as a workshop by those who wish to have a counter and tools for doing small repair jobs.

The recreation room 11'-0"x20'-0" provides highly desirable extra accommodation in this small house. It may serve a variety of purposes. With cabinets and a desk it could be an office or den for the farmer. It could also be a game room or a study for a student. It may on occasion be used as an extra bedroom.

If a room in a basement is to be used as a sleeping area it must comply with National Housing Act standards for main floor bedrooms. Window areas should be at least 10 per cent of the over-all floor area. Care must be taken in construction that the basement walls will be dry, by providing proper drainage. The basement walls and floors should be thoroughly waterproofed. The inside wall should be "fired out" from the concrete foundation and moisture-proof insulation installed between the two walls. The room should have a wooden floor built on "sleepers" which are set in the concrete floor. Proper heating of this area may require a forced-air attachment to the furnace.

If full advantage is to be taken of the placement of doors and windows, the living room and the large bedroom should face south. The roof overhead has been designed to protect the largest windows from the direct rays of the summer sun. This plan will make for a cheerful bedroom and living room at all seasons of the year. The farm layout suggests that the barn and other out-buildings will be north of the house. The driveway would run north and south, parallel to the east end of the house, thus passing both entrances.



Our kitchen was old-fashioned, cluttered, inconvenient and unattractive, no matter how often we painted it. We both spent a lot of time in the kitchen, and we wanted it modernized.

So we went through a lot of magazines until we found a picture of a kitchen we liked, and decided to copy it.



Our lumber dealer recommended covering the old tongue-and-groove walls and cracked plaster ceiling with fresh new Stonebord—the rigid plaster board that comes in sheets.

He told us Stonebord is easy to saw to the right shape and nail in place; the joints easy to conceal, leaving a smooth wall ready to paint or paper.

In just two weeks of my spare time, the job was finished. And if I do say so myself, it's quite a success. Fresh, clean walls and ceiling, not a joint showing anywhere—it's cheerful-looking, and it's warm and comfortable.

All I did was nail the Stonebord sheets right over the old walls, then fill the joints with special filler. That left a perfectly smooth wall, ready for painting. And if we'd known how little it would cost, we'd have had our new kitchen years ago!

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**WHEN** your baby shows his temper, and those unhappy tantrums come from "Childhood Constipation" ... it's wise to give him Castoria.

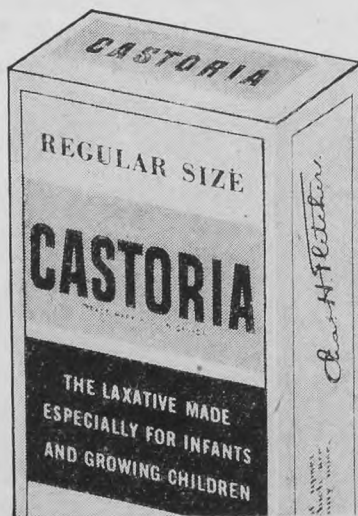
**Thorough and effective**—yet so gentle, it won't upset sensitive digestive systems.

**Made especially for children**—contains no harsh drugs, will not cause griping or discomfort.

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**Get Castoria today at your nearest drug or general store.** Be sure to ask for the laxative made *especially* for children.

**Economize!** Get the money-saving Family Size bottle.



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The **SAFE** laxative  
made especially for children

## The Hired Man And His Boss

*A free lesson in man management from one of the managed*

by THE HIRED MAN

**D**URING the past year there have been a number of articles appearing in the Canadian periodical press which have underlined the worst failings of the hired men to be found on our western farms. From what I can guess they have all been written by men who make up the group we so affectionately call our "Bosses." Perhaps a contribution from the other side may not come amiss.

Now fellas, as we all know, there are only three types of men to work for in our line. They are the good, the fair, and the no-good bosses of agriculture. I have worked for all three. Thank the Lord above, I have found a good one after six years and ten different men. I'll now try to give you my specifications for a good boss. So pay attention, you cynics. Maybe after reading this you will have a clearer understanding of why Joe, George, Frank or Charlie didn't stay till fall last year, as agreed on.

The first thing about my boss, to which I point proudly, is that he doesn't ask me to do something he wouldn't do himself. A man that gives you all the dirty jobs on the place isn't worth working for. Such a man working by himself would never get the dirty jobs done. So he hires some guy who, he thinks, will be a flunky for \$90 a month, room and board. It doesn't work. The lad elected to be the flunky gets wise and quits to go in search of a job where he can get some of the sweet to go with the bitter.

Hired men know that the unpleasant jobs have to be done to keep a place going, and they are willing to do a fair share of it. But to send your man mending fence, or picking rock, or hauling manure every rainy day while you pick yourself a congenial job is definitely hitting below the belt.

**A**NOTHER type of boss of which we hired men take an equally dim view is the fella who hops into the car to enjoy a day in town while his menials toil away on the farm, reasonably sure that most of the other hired men are in town with their bosses. Not my boy. If it rains and he goes to town, he asks me whether I would like to go along. I do at times, but not often enough to make him quit askin'. He also makes sure that I get to town some Saturday nights. A lot of bosses never bother themselves about it. After working long and hard all week a fellow is due for some relaxation, especially here where we work three sections, with some cattle to look after. With only two to do the work, it keeps us hustling from dawn to dusk to get the work done, and not get behind.

One of the worst types is the man who will load you with enough jobs to keep two men busy, then goes to town to sit in the pub all day, coming home at night to beef about what you failed to accomplish. Stay clear of him! He is more likely to be the lowest paying farmer in the whole neighborhood, on top of being the most useless. To which, I might add, he will be the first to write to the editor to complain about this article.

Another type I side-step is the man who tries to keep his place looking like an experimental farm, lawns and

all. A man like this is good—but no good as a boss. The guy who has an average farm and is trying to get ahead is, on the whole, a far more satisfactory boss.

I'll put another plug in for my present boss. He makes sure that my jobs are rotated so that I never become discontented. He is also always ready to give me a hand if he has nothing more important to claim his attention. For a man of 45 he will work alongside of me all day long picking rock, and think nothing of it. He's no sloucher, either, believe me!

**N**EVER ask your man to work Sunday unless it is unavoidable, and then make sure you work alongside him. There are just two times in a year when I think you can make an exception to this rule—seed time and harvest. Hired men realize that these are important operations, and the majority of us don't mind Sunday work, even more so if it is wet and late. The fall of 1948 was one such season. At seeding time we worked eighteen days around the clock. At the end of it my boss gave me two days off and a \$20 bonus. I realize that some farmers may not be able to fork out twenty skins, but give your boy a day off after a long, strenuous siege. You'll probably find that it does him a lot of good. He'll work better for it and think a lot more of his boss.

A frequent cause of trouble is to ask your hired man to milk a few cows after he has pounded your tractor around for twelve to fourteen hours. He is probably longing for the hay about this time. I have done it here but there has always been a good reason why the chores were not done, and like as not the boss will tell me the next day to knock off an hour earlier.

There is another thing I admire about my boss. He knows what constitutes a fair day's work, or a fair week, or a fair month. Some bosses try to squeeze every last bit of work they can out of you short of total exhaustion. When you fall down in distress they will come around with a righteous look on their faces wanting to know what is the matter with your job. Don't bother to explain to a slave driver. He will start on the old refrain of the time when he was a boy and had to work twice as hard as now.

Now you guys who feel that you have been catalogued in the foregoing, stop and think before you start a new day, a new job, or a new bawling out for the hired man, and see if there isn't some way in which you can gain his goodwill. The men who choose agricultural work are the same type of men you are. Your man probably has hopes of running his own spread some day. He likes farming or he wouldn't be engaged in it.

This article isn't written by some guy who sat in his car and watched a farm tick as he took down notes. I have been a hired man ever since I got out of school. I work at other jobs in the winter, but I still go back to the farm in the spring. I have been on this place for three summers. The man before me was here for 11 years. All because we have a boss who knows how to handle his men.

# BEAT HIGH COST OF FARMING WITH BIG, THRIFTY CASE "LA" TRACTOR

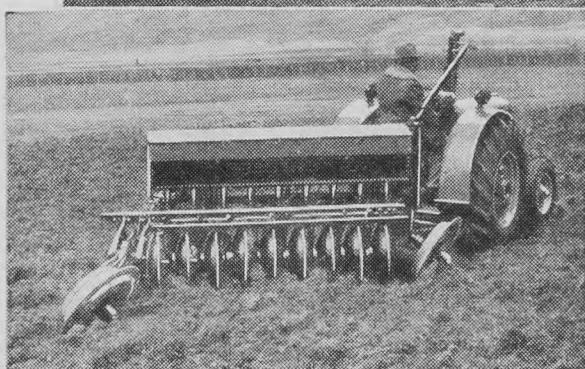
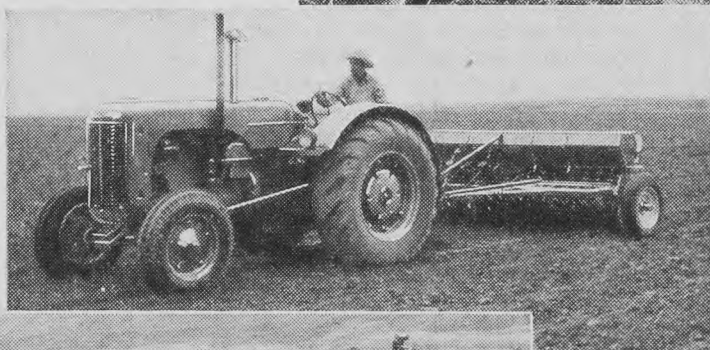
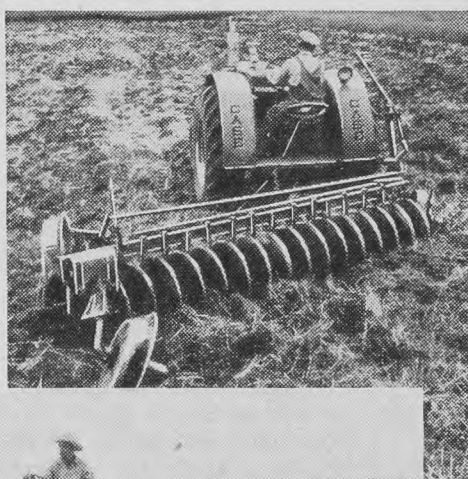
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**Steady power** of the Model "LA," pulling a 10 or 12-foot Case one-way plow as fast as good practice permits, gets work done fast, leaves soil and stubble in good shape.

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**On smaller farms** the Model "D" 3-plow Case tractor furnishes eager power, good lugging ability, easy handling, consistent economy of fuel and upkeep. Here, with 6-foot Case one-way and seeding attachment, it reclaims sod-bound land.

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In the "LA" you get the Case power-saving transmission . . . full-swinging, self-locking drawbar . . . deep-cushioned safety seat . . . quick-acting, easy-turning steering gear. See it at your Case dealer's now. And remember—Case tractors are built in four sizes and twenty models. Ask him about the one that fits your acreage and crop system. Use the coupon now.

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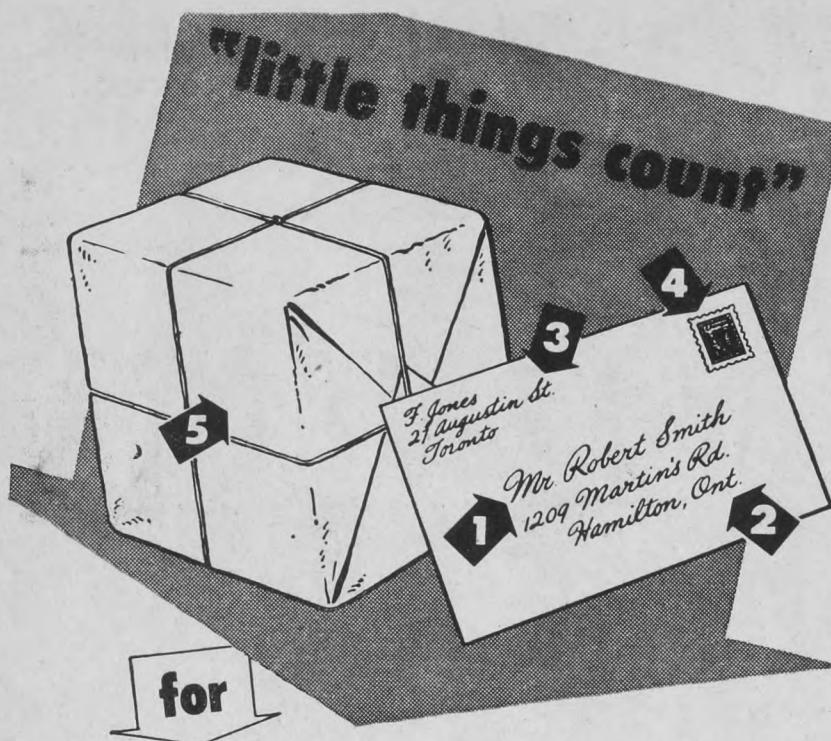
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Always write names and addresses clearly.
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Make sure the address on your letter or parcel is correct and complete, with full street address, Post Office Box number, or Rural Route Number.
- 3 RETURN ADDRESS**  
Always write a return address on the upper left corner of envelopes and parcels.
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Be sure to use the correct amount of postage. If you are in doubt, always have your letter or parcel weighed because the recipient must pay double the deficient postage. This is especially important on overseas air mail.
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Issued by authority of Hon. G. Edouard Rinfret, K.C., M.P., Postmaster-General

• This feature is furnished monthly by United Grain Growers Limited

**MONTHLY**

### Problems In Administering International Wheat Agreement

Since the International Wheat Agreement went into effect on August 1, numerous problems of administration have arisen, not all of which have yet been ironed out. Several give room for differences of opinion between different countries, and continue to create difficulties for the administering council.

#### Quotas For Importing Countries

A number of small countries which signed the agreement under-estimated their import requirements for the current year. Up to the quantities stipulated in the Agreement, they were entitled to buy and have bought from Canada or the United States or both at the maximum price basis of \$1.80 per bushel. Once the quota was reached, they were no longer entitled to buy on that basis. Further purchases in the United States presumably ought to be made at prevailing market price, and purchases from Canada at the prevailing Class 2 price quoted by the Canadian Wheat Board. It sounds simple, but the only way to tell when a quota was exhausted was from reports made to the International Council both by exporting and by importing countries. It would then be for the International Council to notify all concerned that quota privileges had been exhausted. If there should be delay in making those reports, it would be possible for one or for several countries to buy more than they were entitled to at the maximum price of \$1.80. That would mean some loss of revenue to the country selling the excess wheat, either Canada or the United States. At the same time it would leave room for complaint on the part of one of these countries that the other had been cutting prices. Some such difficulties have actually occurred no doubt due more to errors or omissions than to any bad faith. But they are at least sufficient to illustrate some problems of administration.

#### United States Subsidy Of Exports

As is well known, open market prices in the United States have been considerably above the maximum basis of \$1.80 per bushel to which signatory importing countries are entitled. To meet its obligations to such countries, the Government of the United States is subsidizing exports of both wheat and flour made to countries which signed the agreement. At first, the United States Government took the view that countries receiving E.C.A. funds were not entitled to the benefit of such subsidy, regardless of the Wheat Agreement, and would have to buy their wheat at open market prices. Such import countries then switched their wheat purchases to Canada where no price difficulties arose, although they might find difficulty in finding dollars with which to pay for wheat. Finding that to be the case, the United States Government extended the benefit of the subsidy to all countries party to the Agreement.

The subsidy insofar as wheat is concerned has recently been in the neighborhood of 50 cents per bushel, varying according as to whether wheat shipments were made from Gulf ports, from the Atlantic or from the Pacific Coast. The subsidy was intended to equalize prices with what

Canada was charging, under the Agreement. Exporters frequently claimed the amount was too small and was leading to loss of business. Those complaints have been particularly severe in connection with flour exports. Millers in the United States have frequently alleged a loss of business to Canadian millers because of lower prices charged by Canada. In Canada the reverse appeared to be the case, to such an extent that the Canadian Wheat Board recently eliminated the charge of five cents a bushel on Agreement wheat and flour, to cover carrying costs. That action was immediately countered by requests from millers in the United States for an increase of five cents a bushel in the subsidy rate.

These subsidy difficulties were not confined to Wheat Agreement countries. Millers in the United States, for example, have claimed that they have been losing business in the Philippines both to Canada and to Australia, alleging that these countries' Class 2 price for wheat was lower than the open market basis. The Philippines not yet having signed the Wheat Agreement, were not entitled to the Agreement price, but were supposed to buy in the United States on the open market basis, or in Canada, at the Wheat Board's Class 2 price.

United States millers have recently declared that "unless we are willing to see foreign flours seize the Philippines market and firmly establish their brands, we should act quickly to subsidize wheat and flour exports to that and other markets, which will put U.S. wheat and flour in direct competition with Australian exports and Canadian Class 2 wheat and flour."

#### Australia's Price Argument With United Kingdom

Price adjustments in the International Agreement were made last September concurrently with devaluation with Canadian and other currencies in terms of U.S. dollars. Canada, for example, made the maximum Wheat Agreement price \$1.98, in Canadian currency, as against the former basis of \$1.80 per bushel. This was strictly in accordance with the terms of the Agreement, and in fact, any other action on the part of Canada would have been construed by the U.S. as price-cutting. No country appears to have taken exception to Canadian procedure.

Australia, whose pound was devalued at the same time, advanced her export price accordingly, in terms of the Australian pound. Great Britain, which had been attempting to negotiate some large purchases of Australian wheat, objected, and has been endeavoring to get Australia to reduce its price to the old basis in terms of sterling. Australia counters with the claim that to do so would be to break faith with India and with other Agreement countries, which have willingly paid Australia on the new price basis. The dispute is still going on and there appear to be deeper implications. Apparently Australia has been doing fairly well in making sales outside of the Wheat Agreement and would be just as well pleased if the United Kingdom, instead of buying Australian wheat, should place its orders in Canada or in the United States. That, however, is exactly what

## COMMENTARY

the United Kingdom does not want to do. Because of exchange difficulties, it prefers to buy as much wheat as it can in Australia and thereby reduce its dependence upon imports from Canada.

### France As An Exporter

When the abortive Wheat Agreement of 1948 was under negotiation at Washington, France was listed as an importing country. In 1949, however, she claimed a place as an exporting country and was granted a small export quota. Recently France, in accordance therewith, sold several million bushels of wheat to Belgium, a fact which has given rise to much criticism in the United States. Last year, France obtained E.C.A. funds in order to import wheat from the United States and it is quite possible that before long, France will again be in the position of seeking such wheat imports. The French defense is that its 1949 wheat crop was large, that it has no great storage facilities, and that it was better to sell some wheat to Belgium than risk the chance of spoilage. That explanation, however, has not satisfied American critics.

### German And Japanese Wheat Needs

Both Germany and Japan have applied for admission to the International Wheat Agreement, for combined quotas totalling about 100 million bushels. Great Britain at first vetoed their admission but seems likely to withdraw the objection. Before their admission, the supply of wheat to both countries seemed bound to come entirely from the United States. With their admission, which will increase the total quantity of wheat to be supplied under the International Agreement, Canada advances the claim that the Canadian export quota should be proportionately increased. To that, the United States has taken exception, claiming a prior right to supply the two countries in question. In fact, the United States can claim that when it accepted an export quota smaller than Canada under the International Agreement, that was due to its preferred position in Germany and in Japan. It claims the right to have the total amount of the purchases of those countries added to the quota for the United States.

### An Export Dumping Problem

Grain markets in the United States and in Canada experienced a severe jolt during January from an announcement by the Commodity Credit Corporation of the United States. It proclaimed its intention of selling for export large quantities of agricultural commodities accumulated under price support programs. The most startling announcement in this connection was that sacked potatoes were to be offered at one cent per bag on condition that they be exported from the United States. The announcement covered 100,000,000 bushels of corn, 20,000,000 bushels of barley, and 13.5 million bushels of oats. As to these, however, there was no suggestion of fire-sale price. The C.C.C. merely indicated that such grain would be offered for sale at current market prices.

The announcement caused some measure of alarm for fear that the C.C.C. might be contemplating some

general export dumping of grain as well as potatoes. Such intention was promptly denied and the C.C.C. went so far as to say that it did not intend to follow a declining market in making its offers.

Later explanation, widely accepted in grain trade circles, was to the effect that the C.C.C. was anticipating some criticism in Congress, both because of losses on price support programs, and charges that it was simply accumulating surpluses without any effort to dispose of them.

The incident called attention to the extent of price stabilization operations in the United States and to the fact that something more than three billion dollars has now been invested in various commodities, including dried eggs, powdered milk, and linseed oil, in addition to potatoes and grain. Investment in grain is mainly by way of loan. In addition, the C.C.C. has large commitments on forward sales contracts made with it by farmers. The program is so extensive that before long it is expected that the C.C.C. will have to take delivery of several hundred million bushels for which it is endeavoring to find storage space. There are suggestions that large additional storage facilities may have to be built to accommodate this grain.

Announcement about potatoes brought forth an immediate declaration from Ottawa that dumping of these in Canada would not be permitted.

The whole theory of dumping and of subsidized exports has to some extent been brought under review. One of the criticisms frequently made of the International Wheat Agreement is that it implies concurrence in subsidized wheat exports from the United States. In that country, attention is now being called to the fact that Canada is planning to subsidize exports of cheese and bacon to the United Kingdom by contracting to sell them at less than the support prices announced for this country.

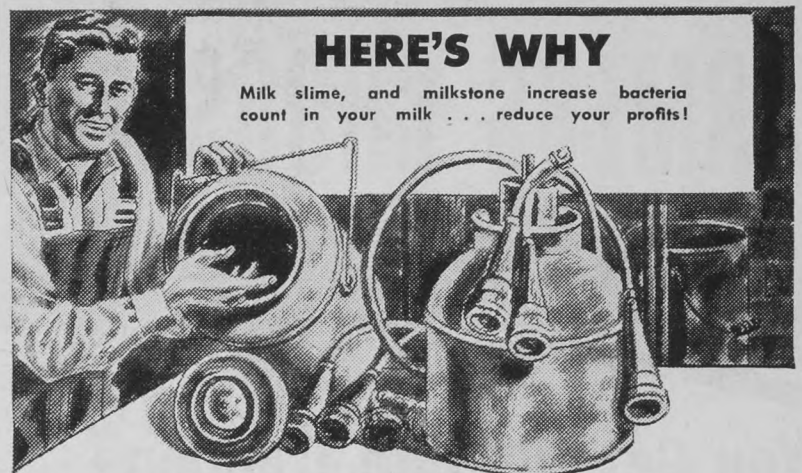
### Indian And Spanish Wheat Problems

The Government of India has been buying a good deal of import wheat chiefly from Australia, although inquiries have been made both in the United States and in Canada.

India's wheat problem is complicated by political dissensions between the Governments of India and of Pakistan. Pakistan produces a very considerable wheat surplus and it would be normal for that to find a market in India. Trade relations, however, are strained and one result has been the offering of Pakistan wheat in Europe concurrently with a search for other sources of supply by India.

Argentina nor Spain are members of the International Wheat Agreement. Spain, this year, needs a good deal of imported wheat and it was at first expected that Argentina would be the natural source of supply. Lately, however, there have been many sources of friction. One result of that situation was the recent announcement that Spain hoped to buy wheat in Canada. If there were negotiations between the governments they did not result in business and it now appears that Spain is about to buy extensively in Australia.

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3. Replace sealing rubber and suck a pailful of boiling water, or sterilizing solution, through machine. Shake well, dismantle and leave all parts to dry.
4. Just before the next milking, suck boiling water or sterilizing solution through reassembled unit.

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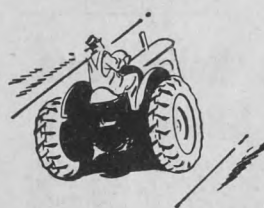
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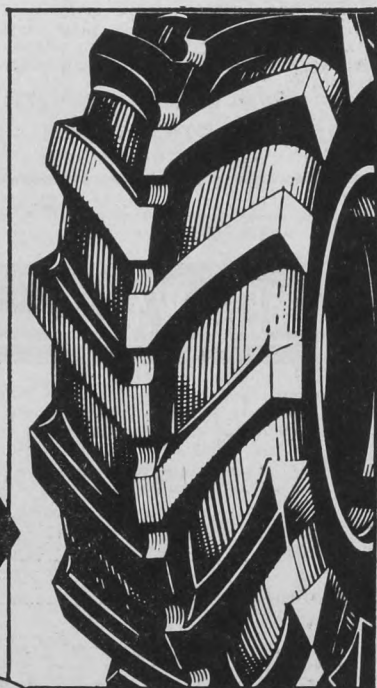
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DF-20

## Dairy Breeding Co-operatives

Survey of 963 U.S. organizations for artificial insemination

EARLY in 1948 there were, in the United States, 963 co-operative organizations of United States farmers engaged in the artificial insemination of dairy cattle. Of close to 1,750,000 cows listed for service in these dairy breeding co-operatives, approximately one million were to be found in six states, which in the order of their importance were Wisconsin, New York, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Ohio and Iowa. Ten years ago only six associations of this kind existed in four states, New Jersey, New York, Ohio and Missouri. Today they are distributed over 40 states.

A survey of these 963 associations made in 1947 included data from several centralized breeding co-operatives and seven central units of federated associations. Between them, these 14 associations inseminated 30 per cent of all cows in the United States bred by dairy breeding co-operatives. The central units of the federated association have as their principal function the production of semen, while the local units distribute it. On the other hand the centralized co-operatives both produce and distribute the semen.

For associations already in operation 70 per cent of the total expenses of centralized co-operatives is labor. Newer associations find their greatest difficulty in accumulating sufficient money to purchase an adequate number of good bulls. The U.S. Department of Agriculture in commenting on the results of this survey point out that in 1947 the average U.S. dairy cow produced 200 pounds of butterfat. On

the other hand the production of daughters of proved sires used by dairy breeding co-operatives was about 430 pounds. In the same year, the farmers' net income after feed costs was nearly three times as much from the cow producing 430 pounds as from a cow producing 200 pounds.

From these facts is drawn the conclusion that the artificial insemination of dairy cattle can contribute greatly to increased efficiency in milk production. By the natural breeding method, increases in the average production per cow for any large area is a slow process. In New York State, for example, where a strong incentive for high production exists because of the immense market for fluid milk in New York city, the average production of milk per cow now stands at approximately 6,000 pounds. A record of average production per cow for the state over a period of about 30 years indicates that even under this strong incentive, average milk production per cow has increased by no more than 40 pounds per year.

The survey reports referred to emphasize the point that the number of cows listed for service as well as the size of the local service area bear an important relationship to the total cost of distributing the semen. Often 1,500 cows is considered an adequate number to warrant the establishment of a dairy breeding co-operative. The report suggests that new independent associations should "anticipate breeding at least 3,000 cows per year, preferably more than 5,000 before bulls and a farm are acquired."

## A Puzzle For Winter Nights

6	8	3	9	5	4	3	8	2	7	9	9	5	6	8	2	6	3	6	7	8	4	4
2	7	4	2	3	9	6	2	2	4	2	3	8	3	2	6	2	5	8	5	2	5	2
8	2	6	5	4	4	5	3	8	2	8	9	6	6	2	5	9	3	4	2	6	8	9
7	7	6	5	8	8	2	4	6	9	3	2	4	8	9	5	4	6	8	3	3	6	7
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9	7	4	6	8	2	8	4	3	9	3	8	4	6	4	2	5	7	8	3	5	6	4
5	8	3	3	6	6	9	3	8	5	8	2	7	5	3	5	8	2	3	2	4	2	9
2	5	9	8	4	5	8	7	2	4	2	6	6	7	9	8	5	6	4	7	6	8	4

The above puzzle, contributed by P. C. D. Unruh, Waldheim, Saskatchewan, contains 414 squares, each occupied by a number from 2 to 9. The problem is to draw a line, starting with the figure 9 marked with a red X, that passes through every square once, but does not cross itself at any point.

The line must progress by short lengths each ending on a number that equals the number of squares through which it has passed. For instance, the first leg of the journey passes through 7 squares and ends in a square occupied by a figure 7. It then turns toward the left and passes through 4 squares, so it must end in a square occupied by a 4. The red line will get you off to a good start. The rest is up to you.

The solution is found on page 54.

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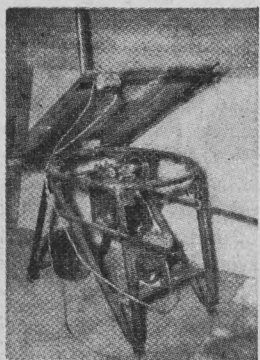
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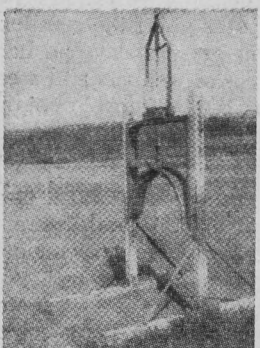
A light home-made elevator mounted on the combine.



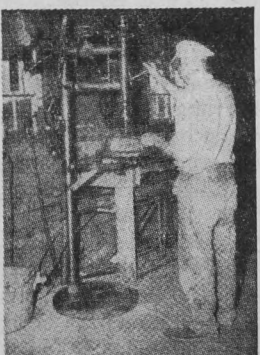
Strength of the chute is demonstrated as this man is lifted to the top of the stack.



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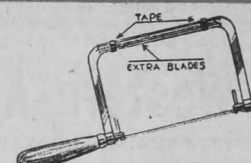
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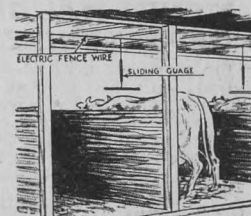
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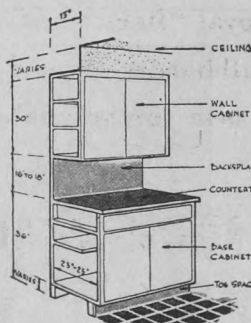
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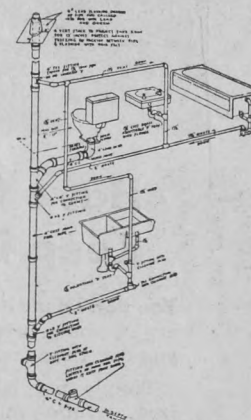
Extra blades are always at hand and don't get lost.



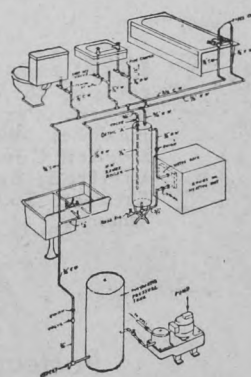
The "trainer" should be adjusted to suit each cow's height.



Standard measurements may be varied slightly to suit individual needs.



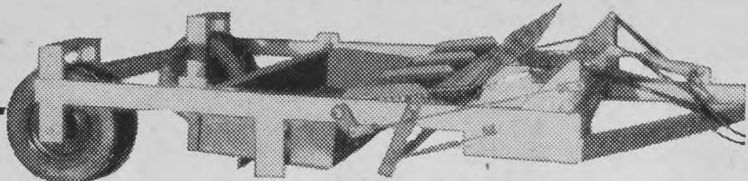
Where additional fixtures are used a second stack may be added.



A skeleton water supply system with details of the range boiler connections.

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## Dingo

Continued from page 14

northern out-back. It was filled at once with a strain of inexpressible woe and a fiendish and hysterical note of glee. Thus each night the dingo pack gave insolent warning to the Coolibah herders that they would again defy the law when darkness fell. No secrecy about it, the pack sat down on their tails like dogs, opened lean pointed jaws and yowled aloud their insulting purpose. They had arrayed their craft and strength with the wind and the ingrate sun in the prolonged war between man and nature, with the Coolibah sheep folds as the stakes.

**W**ITHOUT hesitation Sheila turned in the direction of that cry at a louping canter. The earth had not yet cooled from the heat of the day and the sand was hot to her feet, but she was used to that. Though born in urban captivity this was her natural land, familiar to her through instinct and blood-memory before ever she had run loose in it. In it as always she was utterly at home yet a stranger. And now as always her eyes were filled with a strange unrest, the unnerving conflict which not all her loyalty to man could quite erase. For all the deepest instincts within her were given rein by the freedom of the bush. Yet the rigid training that had shaped her life since puphood fought back for shameful treason. Not for her the lawless lust to kill and kill among the flocks of defenceless woolies; all that was *tajee*—tabu, and in a way she knew just why. Yet each time she was loose in the bush, a dozen wild instincts coursed through her blood and nerves, tempting her as rum tempts the toper.

The bright stars of the Far South now pollened the black-violet sky—Acrux of the Cross, the red Antares, and above the glowing path of the Milky Way, the Emu shone, symbol of Australia, a great bird cut out of the sky's blackness in clouds of nebulae. Sheila was hungry now and yearned to shag the rabbits that flitted before her through the salt bush. But she had been trained to ignore food until her quarry had been located. From afar she heard again the cry of the wild dog pack, this time from the foothills where sheep were in fold.

She turned in the direction of the sounds, her tongue flapping now for she was tired and wanted rest. But it was well for one supposed to have come from some far distant range to arrive tired, hungry and thirsty.

**T**HE wild pack of eleven dogs were lying about on a low ridge, full fed after a double kill when Sheila approached surreptitiously, a bit down wind. She crouched low, meek and fearful as a lone wild female should, as six of the dogs swept fiercely up. Big Reddy himself was to the fore, the largest, most magnificent specimen of her kind Sheila had ever seen. Big as a pony he was rumored to be, by back-bush stockmen. That was not quite true, but he was actually almost twice the size and bulk of any ordinary dog—a king of his kind with strength and craft to match his size. This was the crucial moment when any undue move or suspicious scent might end in a bloody death. Sheila felt her helplessness as she fawned with flattened ears and allowed herself

to be smelled. She passed the test so far as Reddy was concerned; there was even the quiver of excitement and interest in the bunt of his great head against her neck and shoulder. But one dog, a lean and tawny old bitch, suddenly sprang at her with ripping jaws. Perhaps some faintest taint of man had reached her; more likely it was jealous instinct that drove her. Big Reddy drove her back with a saw-like snarl. He was not immune to Sheila nor averse to having another wild female join his band.

Presently she was allowed to rise and follow the wild ones down to the kill in the bottom of a donga. Two carcasses lay there partially devoured;



sheep—the friends and chattels of man. The smell of their blood was heavy in the air. An indefinable horror gripped Sheila at the sight. Never in her life had she touched sheep flesh, the first axiom of her training being based on the old stockman's adage that there is no cure but a bullet for a dog that has once tasted sheep blood. The pack expected her to feed, but hungry as she was she dropped down on the slope above, pretending to be sated. She lay slightly apart from the rest and Big Reddy took his stand close by. He was drawn to her. The thing was beginning to work.

She signalled her need of water with loudly flapping tongue and Reddy rose and led them to a billabong. They would eat no more of the two killed sheep, for Reddy never returned to a kill. Neither did he follow the well-worn animal paths amid the spinifex, for long ago in greener days he had learned the wiles of trappers and seen his own mother die the terrible poison death that came of returning a second day to a kill.

Reddy was an anomaly and a personality in the animal world. From fang to claw he was dingo, yet more than dingo, as men at times are more than human. Currents and passions and a cunning stronger than habit, deeper-seated than kind, coursed through him. The glance of his big yellow eye was charged with an almost human intelligence. As the moving spirit of four different packs he had become known to sheepmen and doggers from Monkeymia to the remote Petermann range for two things, a limp caused by a bullet-broken forepaw, and for his great size and ruddy coloration. More than a hundred stockmen had felt the deadly work of his fang and cursed him and his kind. The past two years a price had been put on his head—100 pounds—known and advertised over fifteen hundred miles of out-back rangeland, for he had become the most infamously



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GEORGETOWN, ONT.

famous of all the dingo renegades. But in every brush with man he had proved himself more than a match for the best professional doggers.

Drought is the high time in dingo affairs. Caring nothing for the killing heat and the many poison deaths that lurked on the range, Reddy and his band had covered an ever wider area as the weeks wore on, covered it with a ruthlessness equal to the drought itself. They killed and killed, selecting the choicest young sheep, gorging and sleeping till the fat grew thick on their ribs in spite of the great heat. Their gibbering blood song chilled the hearts of herders on a dozen far-flung stations.

AS the pack approached a well-known water hole Big Reddy suddenly turned with flashing fangs and threatening snarls, driving his eager followers back as they would have rushed toward the water. He blocked Sheila's way by flinging his rufous body against her to make sure she did not plunge forward. Not even Sheila herself with all her knowledge of man-craft would have sensed danger there, but some warning had reached the red leader's senses. He himself moved forward to investigate in a wide and cautious circle and presently found what he had suspected: two unbaited traps planted by Coolibah riders just beneath the dust of the desert floor. Carefully he scratched around them while the band watched, until he had disclosed each trap and chain. Turning about he kicked clods and stones upon them till each trap sprung with a sharp clank.

No animal on four legs has any conceivable right to understand the workings of traps to such an extent as to "throw" them on a dark night without injury to himself, but this was but a tithe of the craft that had made Reddy what he was—"the smartest warrigal that ever wore a hair," in the estimation of every scalp hunter on the Dingo Destruction Board.

The pack lingered a long time by the billabong, drinking and resting while some of the dogs lolled full



"July, I think it was, when I met this sweet little number from Toledo—she had sugar in every pocket."

length in the shallow water. The lean, tawny bitch that had snapped at Sheila, showed now to be a power in the band, seasoned in sagacity and second only to Reddy in authority. She kept constantly close to the leader. Each time she came close to Sheila her suspicion and jealous hatred showed in a grating snarl and bristling hair along her roach.

It was she who stood up suddenly with a yelp as if kicked in the ribs—the signal for game. Afar on the plain a band of wallabies were moving and

in a minute the pack was in full chase, necks outstretched, ears laid back and eyes glowing with a fierce excitement. It was sport not hunger that drew them on, the joy of a glorious chase in full cry across the starlit plain. The wallabies, some twenty of them, fled away with long, airy bounds. These diminutive kangaroo were faster than even the hound-swift pack, fast as the wind itself, seeming to fly as they covered nearly ten yards in each rubbery bound, long tails stretched out like rudders behind.

The pack spread out behind in a great cordon in obedience to their wonderful hunting lore. They were outdistanced for a time, but they knew well what lay ahead and their cordon stretched wider, its ends gradually drawing ahead. The wallabies also knew what was ahead, the impassable barrier of the Big Fence, that 1140 mile, 17-gauge wire fence nearly four feet high which cuts the continent of Australia into two enormous paddocks. The Number One Rabbit Proof, it is called, for rabbits, the pest of Australia, are its reason for being.

The wallabies tried to swerve and dodge back, but the dogs were close. From side to side the quarry darted, then the great fence loomed ahead. Full into it they plunged with a force that snapped a strand of wire and flung them back as on springs into the very jaws of their pursuers. Four wallabies were ripped to pieces before the rest of the band escaped. The fed pack scarce touched this kill, but Sheila now ate her fill, tearing out chunks of the white meat with her sharp teeth. Big Reddy stood watching her, slightly disturbed, slightly suspicious perhaps that she fed now after having eschewed fresh mutton. But he thrust his wariness aside and joined her, for truth was he was already smitten with this beautiful cream-colored lady that had come out of the waste. Soon the pack moved on to seek another pleasant foray before the dawn. Reddy ran close to Sheila's side, his yellow eyes glowed softly and from time to time he shouldered against her or thrust his muzzle against her nape in playful frisking mood. The next two hours were filled with the joyous freedom of the trail. Never before had Sheila been sent forth against so dominant and subtle an outlaw as Reddy, so accomplished a lover. Usually she felt only revulsion for the killers she went forth to toil. But already her defences were down before Reddy's advances. There would be a mating before there was a victory in this affair, she knew. Nor would it be against her will.

Silently as cats the pack crept through a grove of eucalyptus and whitewoods in the hope of surprising some of the koalas that fed and slept among their gnarled branches. But none of the small bear-like beasts had descended within leaping distance. Later they had sport digging out an echidna from his burrow beneath a mulga tree. They did not kill the weird ant-eating beast, simply rolled him over and over, yelping joyously as he sounded his strange squeaking cries of defiance. The echidna was the Sticky Prickly of the Australia wild, covered with spines and hard to kill, and his flesh was poor eating at best.

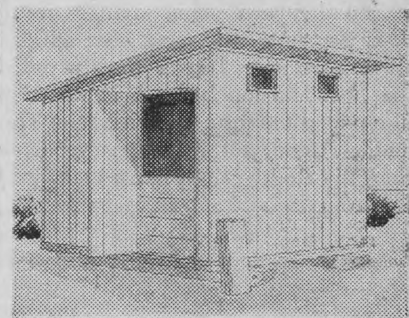
As dawn approached and the Kookaburra, the bushman's alarm clock, heralded the first rays of the sun, they rounded back to the denning place of

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IT'S SMART TO BUILD WITH



B.C. COAST WOODS

the band. But Big Reddy did not linger there. Sleep was far from his mind this day. He led Sheila away up a narrow valley between the two toes of a mountain where mulga and supplejack twined in wild profusion and the tall Mitchell grass grew lush the year round, fed by hidden seeps. Sheila's wayward blood was at its highest that day and it was in this lovely spot that she became the mate of the red renegade. She had toiled Reddy, she knew, as she had toiled no other outlaw, but in doing so she had toiled herself.

THE pair did not return to the denning place. They took a one-eyed sleep in the cool shade of the trees and later they joyously explored the valley's length together, drinking at hidden springs, and lolling luxuriously in the cool water grass. By some of these springs the blood-red blossoms of the flame tree, now in full bloom, trailed down about them as if to crown their nuptial bliss.

Their parlous excursion was cut suddenly short about mid-day. From a den beneath some mallee scrub there appeared the most menacing of all the strange beasts that peopled that lost and lonely land. It was that ill-omened creature known as the Tasmanian tiger wolf, a beast larger even than Big Reddy, built like a giant wolf

yet with black tiger-like stripes covering his gaunt and greyish body. His long crocodile jaws had twice the power of a dingo's, studded with curved teeth keen as those of his striped namesake, and he possessed a thick, meaty tail, powerful almost as that of a kangaroo. The Tasmanian wolf is in reality a miscarriage of the animal world, a leftover from prehistoric times, and nature should long ago have curtailed his kind for the good of evolution.

All creatures of the back-bush were the prey of this arrogant killer. With a rabid snarl and no warning he sprang straight at Sheila with the velocity of a hurled spear. Flung off her feet, Sheila went down with a yelp, but even as she fell her jaws had instinctively found a target in the neck of her attacker. The fangs of the tiger wolf closed on her own neck in the same instant. Locked jowl to throat, pinned to her side by the killer's weight, she would have been torn to pieces in a few minutes, but for Reddy who had lanced in and fastened to the other side of the creature's neck.

With a roar of pain the wolf released his hold on Sheila to deal with this bigger antagonist, but Reddy's initial grip precluded any fatal hold of his. Rearing on his hind legs to his

full height, propped up by his powerful tail, the killer strove to tear Reddy off by main strength, choking, gasping, flinging himself from side to side. He had killed many a dingo in his day, but never had he encountered a warrigal of Reddy's size or prowess.

THE red dingo seemed not even aware of the steel-sharp claws that ripped bloody furrows down his neck and sides; his jaws had locked and held. Blood ran down the coats of both fighters, their breath snored through their nostrils. Then slowly inexorably the leather muscles of the wolf's forelegs began to tell and Reddy was literally torn away from his jaw hold.

Meantime Sheila had been circling the fighters, chopping wolf fashion at the enemy's hind quarters. In the very nick of time she brought to bear the fatal hamstring slash of the dingo kind, and the tiger wolf, shorn of his greater reach and agility, fell sprawling in the midst of a spring. Instantly Reddy was in again, jaws sunk deep in the killer's throat, shaking his great head as he ground and tore at tendon and artery. Another moment and Sheila was at his side, and that marked the end. Slowly, in spasms of agony, the jaws of the tiger wolf relaxed and he lay twitching out the spark of his savage life.

With a rumble of satisfaction Reddy finally relaxed his hold. He moved over to nose Sheila in concern as he ascertained the extent of her injury. Together they moved down to a seep-spring where long and long they rested and laved one another's wounds with healing tongue. To the fundamental chemistry of their mating had been added another bond, the deepest of all, the union that came of battling to the death against a common foe.

For a night and a day the pair lay up by the spring to heal, and at last the pack came in search of them, led by the tawny old dam. Even then two more days passed before Reddy took the trail again. During that time killing dropped to almost nothing at Coolibah station. The sheepmen wondered. Only Ken Crombie knew the reason why.

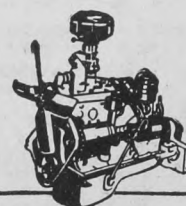
It was not until her seventh day out that Sheila's thoughts turned abruptly to her master and what lay ahead; and at once she was faced with the greatest battle of her life. Stronger grew the pull by the hour, back to Coolibah Station, tightening like an intangible cord across the miles, for she knew Ken Crombie was thinking of her, willing her back. For the first time in her life she yearned to forget, to shake off all thought of duty, but training and the habit of years were stronger than she. A part of her would

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belong to Big Reddy all the rest of her days; she would never forget him. But leave him she must, and soon, for the pull to her master could not be gainsaid. She must return in answer to the life-long compulsion that had made her dog, not dingo; the friend of man. But trick Reddy she could not; nor could she even leave him, except in secret; she had not the will. So she suffered—watching and waiting for some chance to slip away unseen.



"Isn't the humiliation of failure punishment enough?"

It came toward dusk one day while Reddy slept in his den mouth. Sheila, drinking at a billabong seep, saw that she was unobserved and slipped off along a winding donga. Torn in a conflict of grief and anxiety she sped away toward Coolibah station. It was but a minute later that a belling cry behind her told that Reddy knew and was in pursuit, as if pulled out of sleep by the invisible strands that bound them.

Sheila ran recklessly then with all the speed that was in her, smashing through barricades of spinifex and salt bush, slipping, scrambling over piles of shale and tumbled boulders. She must outdistance Reddy for the sake of his safety; she must circle around the trap, and trust to Reddy's fear of man and the coming dark to save him from the sheepmen's guns. To her master it would be a failure, her first failure, but she would pay the penalty.

In spite of all her straining heart and legs could do Reddy gained on her. He ran like mad and his importunate cries were rousing all the valley. Still nearly a mile to go. She must hold out; must keep ahead, and keep her wits for what might come.

Past a milling flock of sheep she tore, and then the paddocks vaguely loomed through the dimness of the dusk, and straight ahead the spot where lay the camouflaged pit trap. The eyes of men would be on her now, she knew, but Sheila swerved sharply in her course, her spent legs almost throwing her. She was almost done, and still Reddy was gaining on her. Only a stone's throw behind her now, in full and reckless cry. He knew now her duplicity, she sensed, and it drove him crazy-wild. She could not stop and face him; nor was there any way to warn him . . . And yet there was, at that—one mad and desperate way.

She swerved again, straight for the trap now, putting forth her final strength. When almost on it she slowed, and walked square across the lid, which dropped beneath her, spilling her headlong into the pit. Reddy would see that and flee with terror.

But she underrated the flaming love and courage of the red king. Above

she heard his panting breath and baffled whine. And then the trap lid pushed down beneath his paw; he saw her and without hesitation launched himself downward to join her. The metal lid flew shut above with an unequivocal clang.

In the darkness below the two wild mates nuzzled one another in an ecstasy of reunion, but only for a moment. There came shouts from above, lights and the sound of running feet. The trap lid swung slowly up, drawn by an unseen wire; then the night was filled with hard smashing report of rifles as volley after volley of lead smashed into the pit. Sheila felt Reddy wince and crumple as he stood protectively above her, trying to carry war to the men. Then bullets pierced her too, and both were down, their hot blood intermingling where they lay . . . Just at the last she heard Ken Crombie's angry shouting, before the darkness took her.

"WELL, mate, you won your bet and won it fair." Dell Bannister said at breakfast next morning. "Big Reddy's a dead dingo, just as you promised. We'll overlook the fact that your lady decoy went off her rocker and hid out in the pit herself."

He chuckled and Ned Ollin cut in with his irritating laugh. "That's one you'll never explain, even to your Board, mister."

"On the contrary," Ken said, "I know exactly what caused it. There was a real mating between Sheila and Reddy; I recognize the signs. She's mated with warrigals before, but never one like Reddy. I think she had a fight on her hands to leave him at the end. She went into the trap on purpose, to warn Reddy off."

"We'll take your word for it," Bannister said. "Too bad we had to shoot her getting Reddy." He laid a wad of folded notes beside Ken's plate.

"Thanks," Crombie said. "I've won a bet, but I've lost the best decoy I ever had. A pretty costly trip."

"She'll live," Bannister said, looking at Sheila where she lay on the verandah, "but I doubt if she'll toil another killer."

"She won't. Her running days are over. But she'll live to mother Reddy's pups, and there may be a female or two among them. That's my hope. They'll likely be born tired after what she's been through," Ken grinned, "but brains—man oh man! There never was another like Reddy—or Sheila either."



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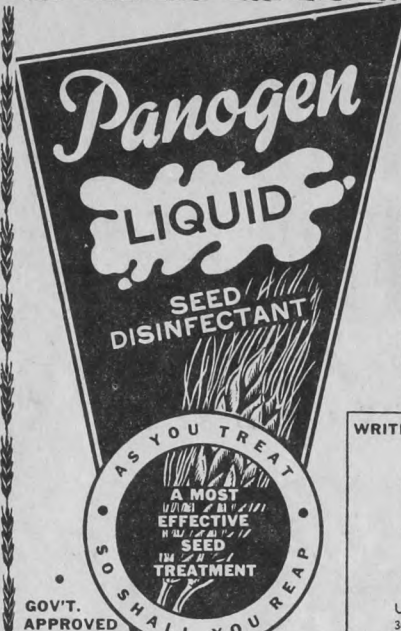
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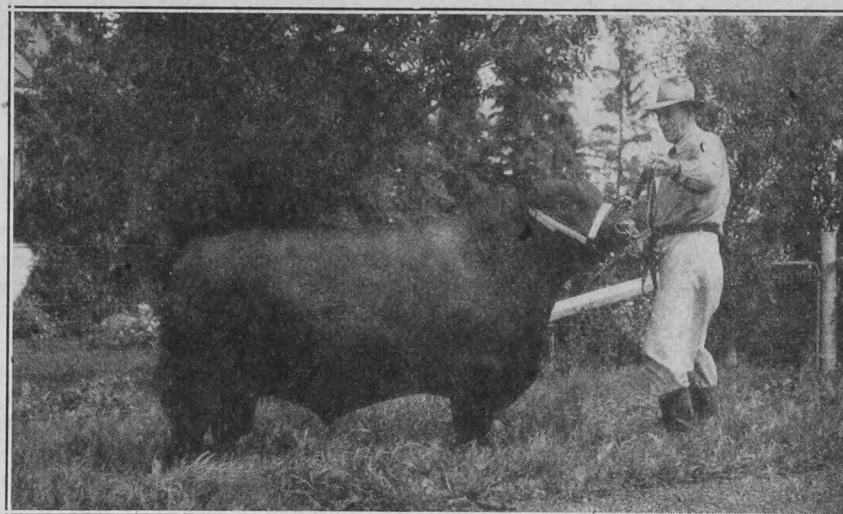
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*This Aberdeen Angus bull has been a frequent show winner for Roy Ballhorn.*

## He Breeds The Best

*In the Wetaskiwin district of Alberta, where cattle are good, Roy Ballhorn is the pacemaker*

COME spring it will be 40 years ago that young Dick Ballhorn packed a grip down in Iowa and struck out for the northwest. He wrote back that it was a fine land—this new Alberta country—and his father came up to check his son's judgment. He came back to Iowa when the corn tassels were turning brown and the dry corn leaves were rattling in the wind. He came back with his confidence in son Dick's judgment fully vindicated, took the crop off his Iowa half-section, had a sale, rented the farm and moved his family—kit and caboodle—to the new land he had bought on the rolling, central Alberta plains.

One of the three sons and two daughters who took this trip was Roy Ballhorn—the son who started into purebred Aberdeen Angus cattle and since has sold bulls as far east as Quebec, New York and Maryland, south to Texas, and west to Vancouver, Washington and California. When the Ballhorns left Iowa they brought with them the fine Iowa tradition of good livestock breeding.

In 1918 Ballhorn bought 10 purebred Angus heifers from Joe Capron, Blackfalds, Alberta. In the 32 years since that time he has improved and increased the cattle and now he has 100 good breeding cows and a total herd of about 250 head.

"The bull cannot be too good," said Mr. Ballhorn, and he should know. He went on to point out that you will not know how good a bull you have

until you have tried him out. When you stand and look at a bull it is hard to say just how he will nick with your cows, and the kind of calves he will throw.

There are a lot of breeders who are confident that Ballhorn's bulls will nick with their she stock. Walter Ferguson, of Cheyenne, was so sure that a certain 18-month bull would do all right in his herd that he wrote his cheque out for \$5,000. Even for Ballhorn that is a very fancy price—the fanciest he has received.

There is a story in the full brother to this high-priced bull, though Mr. Ballhorn hates to let himself think about it. Breeder Dick Fowler had come up from Oklahoma and bought six calves—four bulls and two heifers—and he wanted another bull calf, and decided this particular calf was the one for him. He knew the full brother had sold for \$5,000 and he was prepared to pay a good price. Ballhorn decided to keep the bull for his own use and would not let himself be talked out of it. To make a painful story short, a week later they found the calf lying dead in the pasture.

Angus breeders in Canada should be very thankful that Dick Ballhorn liked the central Alberta country well enough to interest his father so that the Ballhorn family moved to the Wetaskiwin area 40 years ago. They have raised a lot of good stock in that time and Roy, in particular, has done a good job of work for the Aberdeen Angus breed.—R.O.H.



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## Pack Rats Are Pests

*If you want to sleep don't share accommodation with pack rats*

by A. R. MUNDAY

FICTION writers have somehow managed to make pack rats romantic. Close acquaintance soon settles the romance, though at first one may be taken with a pack rat's looks. Girls might even call him cute, with his quite pretty grey back, his almost-white vest, his oval ears, and his rather bushy tail. But he is still, all of him, rat. His habits are not pretty, and neither is his smell. It is a smell that stays after he's been long gone. And when he comes, he leaves at no one's wish but his own.

My acquaintance with pack rats began when I took up stump-ranching in B.C.'s Arrow Lakes region—surely earth's loveliest country. I had the choice of occupying either one of two

old logging camp cabins. The one I chose had floor space but no flooring, windows but no sashes, and doorways but no doors.

Deer fed right beside the cabin every night and most every day too. Several times I found bear signs in my "front yard." One night a strange rustling awakened me; a huge porcupine was under my bed. After that I always slept with the flashlight handy. But none of these were unwelcome visitors. The deer, the porcupine, and even the bear, could be called friends.

Then things changed. For then came the first pack rat. That rat seemed to know every way there is of keeping a man awake all night, every night. He was punctual too, coming always

almost to the minute at eleven o'clock. When he couldn't waken me other ways he would scamper over my feet. That always worked, and once he had me awake he never let me get to sleep again till about 4 a.m. Since I was getting up at five that didn't help much. Night after night I threw at him everything handy, from boots to hammers. Net result—they all had to be picked up again next day. The rat wasn't even bothered. He made his one mistake though, showing himself in the window in daylight. A bullet finished him. But his smell stayed.

**S**TILL, for a few nights I had peace, and sleep. Then came another rat. No. 2 had as many tricks as No. 1 but he didn't last as long. He stepped into a trap. But now there were smells from two rats.

By then nights were getting cooler and the other cabin had been fitted up. I moved in. So did rat No. 3. It wasn't long though before I got him with a bullet. That put him away, but his smell, too, stayed on.

My motto must have been "more and better pack rats," for No. 4 was the king of them all. This rat knew all the tricks all the others did and he had a whole fistful that were strictly his own. His favorite one was rolling apples over the floor. He had as many as eight of them on it at a time. No eight apples ever made more noise.

The cabin had long rafters. One night after waking me he scooted up to one of these and sat there, slapping his tail. That night I had the rifle handy. The first shot, by flashlight, lifted a little hair off his back. He took a few hops along the rafter and sat still, peering at me as though asking scornfully, "That the best you can do?" I tried to do better. Bang! There was a jagged hole in the cedar shakes close to his head.

He scampered further along the log and again peered at me, perhaps not so scornfully. I had one more shell. Bang! went the rifle for the third time. The bullet took his tail off. It may have been a tail he was proud of, for he seemed stunned by its loss. He didn't even move when I pussyfooted towards him, close enough to poke the rifle muzzle right into his ribs. The shakes were loose there, and I poked him clear through the roof.

The rest of that night I slept. Maybe he didn't, but I wasn't worrying about that. Next day I had one quick glimpse of him. A pathetic looking rat he was with no tail, not even a stub. He didn't come back that night nor for two more nights.

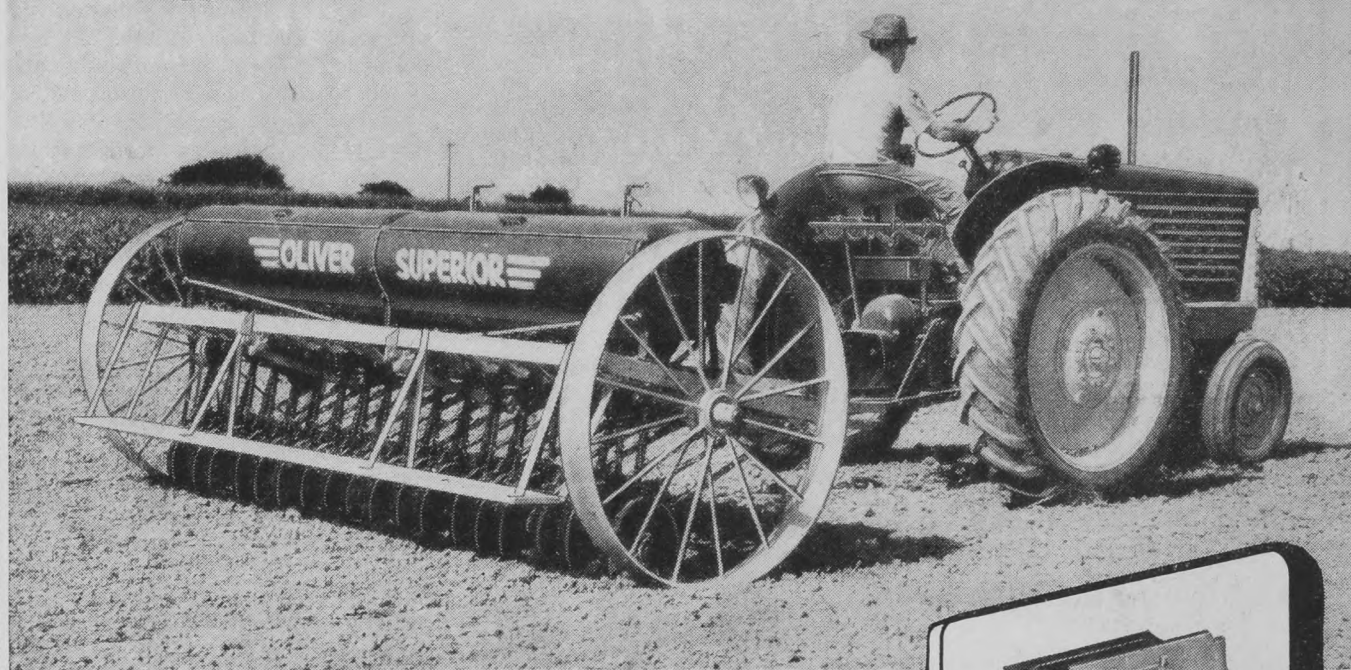
Apples were his undoing in the end. Next time he wakened me, he was again playing ball with an apple. The flashlight showed him squatted with a red Wealthy between his paws. I swung at him with my walking stick. It lifted him off the floor and sent him flying some six feet. He landed with a thump on the corner of the apple box. He hung there just a moment before slipping to the floor and wriggling out of sight.

Perhaps he had his death blow. Or, perhaps, at last, he just had enough. I never saw him again and no more rats came to take his place.

That was months ago. I still wake nights imagining I still smell pack rats. There are nicer smells, lots of them, lots nicer. And next fall there will likely be more pack rats. But that is next fall. I have till then.

# Accuracy

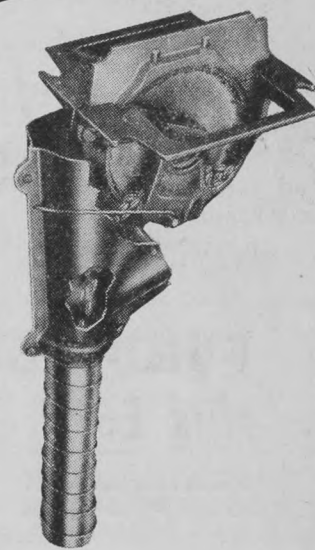
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## The Sergeant

Continued from page 9

his companionship with Dick Fullerton, into a bottomless abyss.

Abstractedly he fingered a strand of her hair as he answered her question.

"Dick's over east at Lac aux Mouffettes. But he'll probably visit you before long. I sent him relief; he's been on hard duty there a couple of months. We're having some trouble—"

He explained briefly about the smallpox scourge and his intention to vaccinate the Cree bands along the north edge of the muskeg. As he finished, he saw a fear creep into her eyes, and guessed what she was thinking.

"You mustn't worry about your dad," he reassured her. "He went west to the Thunder Hills country. The scourge is east. But about yourself—he glanced at a scar on her left arm, up near the shoulder—"how long ago has that been, Aurore,"

"Six—six or seven years. One time Doc Morrissey came past and insisted that Dad and I and Dick should be—"

"Too long ago to be safe," Spaulding commented. "Immunity gets weaker each year. A virulent type of the disease might attack you. I'll vaccinate you again. Can I get a bite to eat before I leave?"

"But you're not leaving? Not tonight! You mustn't. You can make better time if you rest—"

Spaulding could picture a fireside evening there, talking to her and Norrys. Usually his hours with her were stolen visits when he swung aside from some patrol. And it was very seldom that her father, Lem Fullerton, was not there, surly and suspicious—spying upon whatever they said or did.

But Spaulding also pictured the red death creeping unseen along the north shore, stalking the Cree encampments like an invisible dragon, and only himself and Norrys, with hypo needles, to fight it. Hours were lives.

He shook his head. "I don't dare stay. A man can't listen to his own likes in such a matter as this."

Aurore understood, and did not urge him. While she hurried about, getting him a hot, substantial meal, he leaned against the door-frame, watching her, thinking.

SPAULDING, for all his companionship to Dick and Aurore, was an outsider to the Fullerton household, and had an outsider's clear vision about several things.

It had always been a marvel to him that the two young folk could be children of Lem Fullerton. Filial love blinded them, especially Aurore, to anything evil in their father: to his incredible selfishness, to his shadowy dealings with the Indians, to the grasping, mercenary motives back of all he did. But Spaulding was far from blind. He knew Lem Fullerton for what he was; and he knew those shadowy dealings down to the last detail. The trader was furtive and crafty as a trap-line carcajou; but Spaulding was a little craftier, a little wiser. The trader had spies and stool-pigeons among the Indians; but Spaulding had better spies, better scouts.

What he knew he kept strictly to himself. He felt it a sinful thing to shatter a child's ideal. The truth

would have been humiliation and a bitter tragedy to Dick and Aurore. For their sake he kept silent and covered up several nefarious deals which he never would have overlooked in another trader.

It was wrong to hush them up. But it was wrong to disclose them, too. Caught between two fires, he could see no clear-cut right thing to do. It was characteristic of him to be silent, and take upon himself the wrong of suppressing the truth and so spare Dick and Aurore.

LEM FULLERTON was not grateful for this tolerance. On the contrary, he harbored a festering grudge against the man who had found him out. Between them—both strong men in their own ways—there was a tacit enmity. It jiggled across Spaulding's romance like an ugly, sustained discord across a harmony. Fullerton did not want Aurore to marry. He had even tried to keep her from going Outside to school. The same sordid motive held in both cases: he wanted her there at the trading-post. Stripped of all niceties, he wanted a woman to cook for him, to keep house, to nurse him. Aurore's happiness, her desire to be married, counted for less than nothing with him.

In a dozen different ways he had striven at first to poison her mind against Spaulding. Lies about Spaulding having amours with half-breed girls, about his embezzling treaty money, about him conniving with "permit" smugglers. That attempt failed dismally; her love was too loyal and trusting.

In the last half-year he had switched to other tactics, more successful. By playing upon Aurore's sympathy for a "lonely old man," by taking advantage of her affection for him, by constantly reminding her of her obligations to a father, he had got her to put off her marriage indefinitely.

Spaulding acquiesced in that. Though the seasons had seemed long and the evenings without one another lonely, he and Aurore were sure of each other and so content to wait. The news of the inspectorship and transfer, however, meant a decision one way or the other. He was going to take Dick along with him as sergeant. He had built up a vision of life there on the Athabaska—a white-washed cabin for Aurore and himself, his zestful work, companionship with Dick.

Aurore would go with him if he urged her. For days he had debated with himself, debated fiercely, whether or not to ask her.

That question was taken out of his hands now by the news he had heard that morning. It seemed that the Providence to which Charles Norrys pinned devout faith had found a fearful solution to the question.

So Spaulding did not mention his inspectorship to Aurore as she sat across the table from him and poured him tea. Perrault brought in the white chest. Norrys came in for a moment to say he was ready; and tactfully went out into the trading room to wait.

Using the hypo method to make a certain job of it, Spaulding vaccinated her—and kissed the dimple in her elbow to atone for the pain of the needle. He spoke lightly of the hard patrol ahead, searching out the Cree encampments.

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But in their last moments, as he kissed her good-by and looked down into her clear, unsuspecting eyes, he half-closed his own lest she might read his grim secret.

From the trading station on the spruce-buried river, Spaulding and Norrys struck eastward into Strong Woods, keeping close to the edge of the huge tamarack muskeg. They forced themselves to the utmost exertions. Literally they were racing death; and literally that white chest marked with a red cross was life or death to scores of helpless Indians. They might meet the scourge at the very first camp they came to. They might meet it far east and stamp it out before it worked much havoc. They hoped at least to save a majority of the Indian bands and build a barrier athwart its path westward.

Each morning when the earliest grey of dawn was filtering down through the spruce, they crept out of their sleeping pouches, stiff and cramped; and pushed on, travelling until midnight, with only a brief halt at noon to rest and boil tea. It was the Chippewyan Moon-of-Frozen-Winds, a moon of brutal storm and savage cold. Blizzard after blizzard—short, intense woolly-whippers—howled down from the Barren Grounds. But through storm and still cold they pushed on, driving themselves and their dogs to the limit of endurance.

There was no trail to guide them, no moon or stars or sun to show direction. Magnetic masses underlying the tamarack hills played havoc with their luminous compasses. Spaulding had to feel their route eastward, but he travelled with the surety of a born bush-loper. He walked ahead, beating down a path with his snowshoes, his huskies following, then Norrys and the second dog-team. At times they came to lakes swept bare of snow, and speeded across them. At times they fought their way through deer-bush and dense juniper and floundering snowbanks, where they made but half a mile an hour.

Norrays could not stand the grueling battle. He had to give in at last and ride his *komatik* wherever the going permitted. It was beyond his understanding how Spaulding, for all his powerful body, could break trail, day after day, eighteen hours at a stretch. He walked like a machine, indomitable, silent. He seemed to be tireless and sleepless. Twice in the dead of night, when *mal de racquette* pain awakened Norrays, he saw Spaulding over the campfire, a blanket around his shoulders, thinking.

He knew that some powerful motive was driving the Sergeant beyond a man's ordinary strength, and that something more than the burden of this patrol, the race against death, hung on his comrade's shoulders. But he asked no questions; Spaulding's silence and his rock-hard face forbade them. He knew that if and when the need of it arose, Spaulding would tell him, somewhere eastward along that muskeg shore.

THEY broke out one noon upon the edge of a sizable lake; and looking across to a bay on the far side, they saw a cluster of Indian tepees—nearly two score of them—with several small log cabins close by. Smoke was spiraling from all the lodges, and whipping away down wind.

"Bois Fort Crees," Spaulding remarked, halting a few minutes to let the teams rest. "Apah-Stamik's band. Some *meti* families living there too—in those cabins. We're lucky. I knew this camp was close around here, but we might have hunted days to find it. That smoke means we've won our race so far."

He stepped to his *komatik*, took a heavy black automatic from his pack, clipped a loaded magazine into it and thrust the weapon into his jacket pocket.

The strange action startled Norrays. "Spaulding! Why under heavens—that gun—"

"Before the next hour's up, you'll find out *why*," Spaulding answered briefly.

"You mean—trouble with them?"

Spaulding merely nodded, as though the trouble he anticipated at this Indian camp were a trivial thing on *that* patrol.

They started across the lake. Savage gusts of wind, sweeping across the open ice, swirled the *komatiks* crazily, tangling traces, cruelly punishing the worn huskies. Another storm was brewing. The clouds scudded low overhead, ominous and threatening—a symbol of their reception.

As they approached, a pack of half-wolf Indian "crackies" came tearing out of the camp. Spaulding held them off with his long whip. In a clamor of dogs barking, Indians shouting, the patrol swept into the middle of the encampment.

Norrays looked around him curiously—at customs different from those in his own "parish." The tepees were pitched close together at the very edge of the lake. A big *kozgee*, or council wigwam, stood in the centre like a hub to a wheel. Deep-trodden paths led from lodge to lodge, and radiated south toward the muskeg trapping-grounds. The *meti* cabins nestled under the first trees a few rods north. Just beyond them a twelve-foot windbreak, a wall of interlaced spruce saplings, extended a bowshot east and west to protect the lodges from the frozen winds.

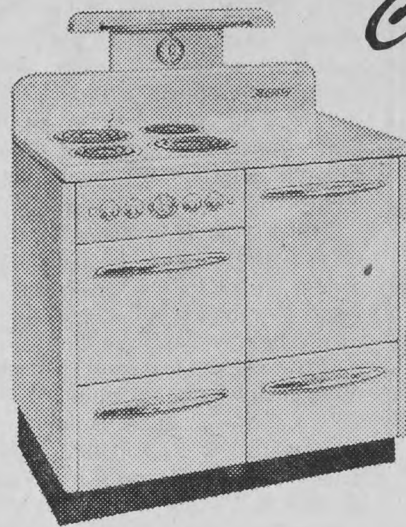
Fervently Norrays gave thanks that the red scourge had not yet struck this camp. Men and women and children—they counted more than a hundred and fifty souls. The men were of the tall, muscular, Strong Woods type of Cree. The younger women, clad in soft deerskins trimmed with fur, were very pretty. Several of the *metis* girls standing back from the eager circle were strikingly beautiful—so winsome and adorable in their furs and quilled garments and saucy, broad sash-belts that they seemed reincarnations of Alouette, the song-sweetheart of the old fur *voyageurs*. In their dark hair and eyes, their graceful bodies, their shyness, Norrays saw a girlhood even such as Aurore Fullerton's.

Down the huge snowdrifts behind the windbreak the children had worn a dozen toboggan slides; and under the heavy spruces had built miniature snow lodges and forts. And even as he watched, a little warrior of five years came whooping out of the woods, bringing home in triumph a snowshoe rabbit miraculously caught in one of his snares.

TO BE CONTINUED.

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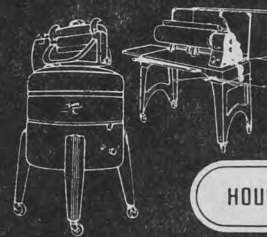


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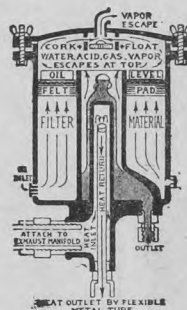
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WIREWORMS are a familiar and sometimes very serious problem to growers of many kinds of crops. They can ruin an expensive crop by boring into the seeds and underground portions of plants. Moreover, the infestations, when they appear, are likely to last a long time because the worm lives several years and has few natural enemies. In areas such as intensively-cropped, irrigated districts they can be very serious. Even the best cultural and cropping practices, though helpful, are inadequate in controlling the wireworm.

British Columbia growers are now offered the chance of freeing their soils from infestation for at least three years, by means of chemical treatments before planting. The effectiveness of the chemicals and their control of the wireworm are vouched for by Dr. K. M. King, Dominion Field Crops Insects Laboratory, Victoria. Since the great majority of crops and ornamentals may be damaged by severe infestation, British Columbia growers will welcome this information, especially growers of crops such as potatoes, seedling onions, gladioli, wheat, corn, barley, beans and transplanted tobacco, tomato, cabbage and lettuce, which are especially susceptible.

Chemicals are available for use in British Columbia; and detailed instructions may also be obtained from Dr. King or from any field crop or horticultural officer of the Dominion, or Provincial Department of Agriculture. The chemicals which have been found satisfactory are as follows:

EB, or ethylene di-bromide, is a liquid fumigant which, according to Dr. King, acts quickly, kills completely and usually increases crop yield. It may be applied early the previous fall, or a few days before seeding if conditions are favorable. The rate is from five to eight imperial gallons per acre of 20 per cent EB (by volume) and the cost is from \$15 to \$25 per acre for material.

BHC, or benzene hexachloride, offers a cheaper but effective treatment, though its use is limited because of a tainting or off-flavor effect especially on root crops. Root crops, especially potatoes, should not be grown on the soil for one and perhaps two years. It should be used at the minimum effective rate since this may occasionally injure the root growth of some plants under some circumstances. Used at approximately one-half pound per acre of the active ingredient of DHC, which is equivalent to about 100 pounds of five per cent dust or 10 pounds of 50 per cent wettable powder, the cost will run from \$6 to \$10 per acre.

DDT, or dichloro-diphenyl trichloroethane, kills wireworms more slowly, but it continues to kill for some years, especially the young larvae, and for this reason should be applied a year before planting crops subject to heavy wireworm attack. Treatment oftener than every five or six years is not needed and because of possible root injury, minimum effective rates are advised. At ten pounds per acre of actual DDT, or 100 pounds of 10 per cent dust, or 20 pounds of 50 per cent wettable powder per acre, the cost will run from \$7 to \$12 per acre.

Chlordane has given promising but variable results and, like DDT, protection may not be adequate the first season. A little tainting of root crops may occur. At five to 10 pounds per acre of actual chlordane, or 100 to 200 pounds of five per cent dust, or 12 to 25 pounds of 40 per cent wettable powder, the cost per acre will run \$12 to \$25.

D-D, or dichloropropene mixture, is like EB, a liquid fumigant giving a good, quick control, usually accompanied by increased crop yield. It is particularly corrosive and requires special care in handling. Planting should follow two to four weeks after soil treatment. Used at 16 gallons per acre, the cost per acre is \$35 to \$50.

EB and D-D must be placed six to

## Solution to Puzzle on Page 44

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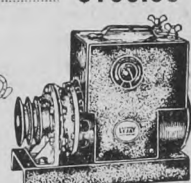
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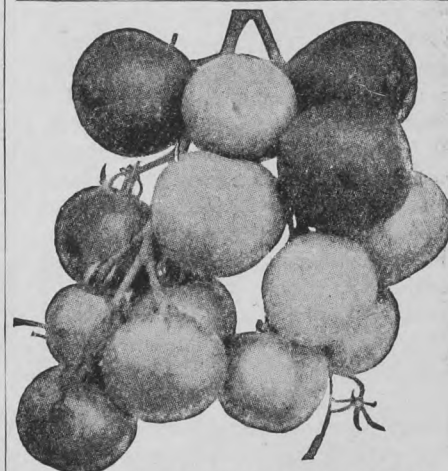
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*Vallach of Achnacloich, Champion Highland bull at the 57th annual show at Oban, Scotland.*

### When Trappers Disagree

IN its October issue, The Guide published an article by B. G. Roberts which recommended the following method of skinning a beaver. The skin should be split down the hind legs from the feet to the vent, says Mr. Roberts, then along the belly to the tip of the lower jaw, and then down the inside of the front legs.

L. B. Woodcock, an experienced foothills trapper, immediately wrote to say that the front legs should not be skinned down the inside. He commences the job in the same way as Mr. Roberts by splitting the skin down the hind legs and then along the belly. But he skins down the front legs, leaving a hole where the foot has been pulled through.

This article brought an amendment from D. A. Archibald of Clearwater, B.C., which reads:

"I find Mr. Woodcock's method of skinning beaver incorrect on one point. He mentions splitting the skin along the back of each hind leg to the vent. This is not proper. The right way to skin a beaver is to split the skin down the belly from the tail, past each side of the vent, to the point of the lower jaw, then proceed as L.B.W. suggests. You will have four holes in the hide, one for each foot. These holes do not need to be sewed up as all buyers know what they are.

"I have skinned a good many beaver and seen many hundred skins prepared by both white and Indian trappers, and have not seen one that was split down the back of the hind legs."

At this point, the editors, who claim no expert knowledge of the subject, gave up. They sent the whole correspondence to the fur trade department of the Hudson's Bay Co., who surely can speak with authority. The advice from that source:

"Beaver are sometimes skinned by making a cut from tail to lower jaw and additional cuts from the vent up each hind leg as described by Mr. Woodcock. However, the method most frequently used is to make one cut from tail to lower jaw as outlined in detail in Mr. Archibald's letter. This method produces a more uniform shape of pelt than the former and is, therefore, more popular with the fur trade."

# FARMERS EXPRESS VIEWS ON GRAIN MARKETING

Frank A. Mennie and C. A. Mennie,  
Kelvington, Sask.

say:

"We believe, and wish to express our opinion, that the Open Market and the Wheat Board should be both continued. Complete Government control would be monopoly and a menace which we should eradicate, as it is much easier to keep our freedom than trying to regain it after we have already given it away."

D. A. Broadfoot, Gladstone, Man.

says:

"The Wheat Pools demanded stabilized prices through planned economy and state control. This resulted in monopoly, compulsion and dictatorship . . . a policy that has brought chaos, and loss of millions of dollars to producers. The democratic law of supply and demand, with the Open Market and the Wheat Board floor price out of political control, is the way to restore freedom and personal initiative to the producers."

M. B. Mill, Hythe, Alberta.

says:

"If our Constitution gives producing citizens, as I believe it does, the right to dispose of their products at any time, place, and price which they desire, then why has this priceless Freedom been stolen from farmers? We have in past years been selling our oats on the December market, getting our full cash payment of from 68c to 70c per bushel. A sure thing. This past year, could we have had the same privilege of the open market, we would, personally, have had \$2,500 more cash at the present time to use as we see fit. We fail to see where the Board gives us any guarantee as to our future price, nor do we seem to be able to find out the price they are charging us."

G. Weeks, Stalwart, Sask.

says:

"Early in the century our Government showed products of western Canada at all major fairs, inviting emigrants and guaranteeing freedom of opportunity. We have now lost a part that can easily reach all, with the present enforced delivery and sales in common. They say the Grain Exchange is a gambling agency. Well, we homesteaders gambled year by year: that is how those who persisted won security. Freedom of opportunity, to buy and sell in the markets of the world, built the west, doing a good job, so how can it be improved?"

Long subjected to having their views expressed for them by others with whom they may not agree, prairie farmers who cherish freedom now enjoy, to the limits of this free space, a medium through which their protests against the compulsory method of grain marketing can be heard.

This space is regularly made available by the Winnipeg Grain Exchange, but only the protests of bonafide farmers will be published.

Send your views in brief to Dept. 6 Winnipeg Grain Exchange, Winnipeg, for publication, together with your name and address. Photos will be welcome.

Mrs. J. N. Miller,  
Brancepath, Sask.

says:

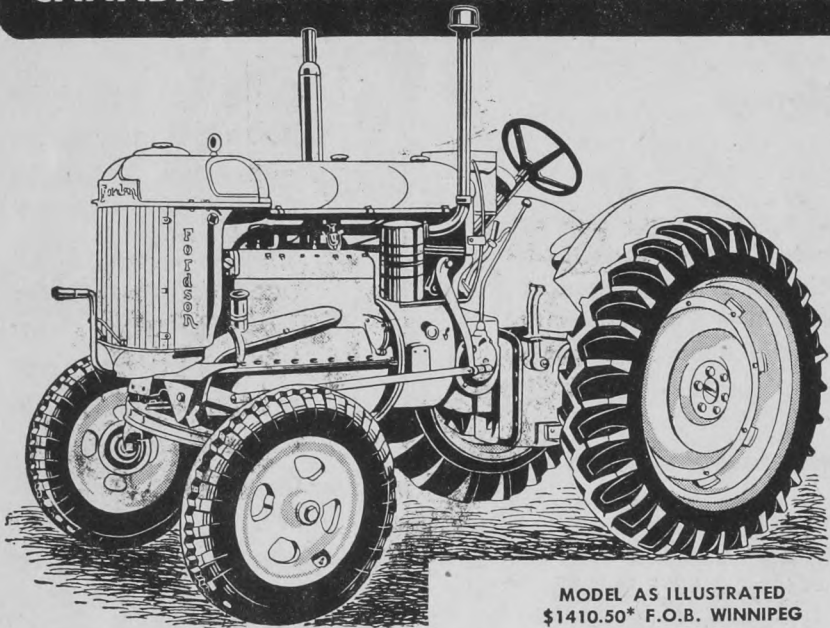
"If we are not allowed to choose the way we wish to market our grain, why does not the government dictate to labour? They choose for themselves where they work and what wages they can secure."

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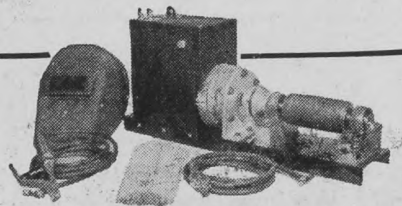
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## Pin Money

*Continued from page 11*

and had learned just what it could and would do. That young lady was never without an outstanding loan from the credit union; and do you know what she did with the money? She bought books for her students, a portable radio, a gramophone and a typewriter. Paid for it with money she borrowed from her credit union, three hundred miles to the south, and sent a cheque each month out of her salary.

IT would be possible to go on to relate many more such stories, for practically every loan these ladies have made has a story behind it. Because they do not judge the merits of a request for a loan on the basis of whether they will get their money back. Their yardstick is: what good will it do? On this basis these ladies have loaned over \$30,000.00 in a community of 2,000 people. Strangely enough, they have never yet made a bad loan. They have always been repaid, and not just in money, but in satisfaction as well. Few of their loans

security wasn't very good and the lawyer, being personally acquainted with them, took the liberty of pointing this out. They told him the member couldn't get the loan at the bank so they were making it. Mentally back on his heels, the lawyer tried again:

"Look," he said, "you ladies have done very well; you haven't lost a loan and you have been able to pay a good dividend rate. But now your assets are growing and you are making some fairly large loans. Why don't you get a committee of three hard-headed business men to help you in your final decision before making a loan? Loans such as this, to a common laborer, are dangerous." The answer came back quickly, "But all our loans are made to common laborers." The lawyer gave up. Naivete can always defeat logic.

Where does the money come from to make these loans? This credit union has 157 members, made up of ladies from High River and the surrounding farm and ranch country. About 25 per cent of its members are children in their teens. Every cent which those ladies loan out is their own, collected



*A float entered by the Pioneer Credit Union in a local High River parade.*

could be made by an ordinary financial agency because the people to whom they make these loans do not have the kind of security a bank requires. They have only two things: character and a need for the loan.

That is the yardstick on which these ladies make their loans and they haven't been wrong yet. They have made loans for everything: travelling, education, household and farm equipment, livestock and housing. Several of their members have made trips abroad and have come home with pictures and a story to enrich the lives of the whole community. Half a dozen have received sufficient to carry them through a university education and in some cases no interest was charged. The son of one of its members was able to go through for the ministry. Another son has gone in for dentistry. Some have bought land, others have equipped their farms. They have loaned money for everything from slip covers to housing. And each time they made a loan it has done something to the borrower and the lender: in character, in pride, in morale.

They went to a lawyer recently to draw up some papers for a loan they were making to a member. The

in amounts from 25 cents to \$25.00, collected over a period of eight years from money derived from chickens, milk and butter and from their own allowance. They kept putting their spare cash into the credit union until now, collectively, they have saved \$18,000.00. This they have loaned out, many times over. It is their own money to do with as they will, and they loan it to whoever wants it, needs it and can do something with it. And the \$18,000.00 they have saved is as nothing to the satisfaction each and every one of them feel at the work which has been done.

Can you imagine a sum like that revolving continuously in a small community? The ladies are fond of saying, "I'm glad we made that loan. That person did something with their lives."

And when I quietly remarked, "Don't you realize what you ladies have done with your lives?" they looked at me a bit startled.

The Pioneer Ladies' Credit Union of High River is typical of over 200 credit unions with 25,000 members in Alberta, 200 with 30,000 members in Saskatchewan, 130 with about the same number in Manitoba, hundreds more credit unions in every province

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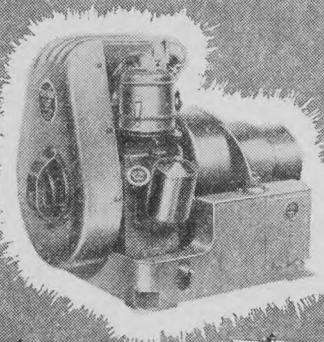
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in Canada, thousands more in the United States, hundreds of thousands the world over. Because credit unions are not peculiar to any one district, you find them in every corner of the world, doing a good job in the community, quietly, without fanfare. Not looking to governments for help; on the contrary, the very essence of credit unions is to do for oneself, to keep free of political entanglements. For governments come and go, but credit unions have been in existence for over a hundred years and are growing each day, stronger and with greater influence.

I HAVE chosen to tell you about the High River Pioneer Credit Union because to me it epitomizes the kind of work a credit union should and does do. This credit union cannot exactly be called typical, because as I said before, it is the only all-women's credit union in the world. But the work they do is typical of the work done by credit unions everywhere. From the vast New York Municipal Employees' Credit Union with its millions of dollars in assets, to the Edmonton Credit Union for the Blind, from the credit unions in the United Kingdom now almost a hundred years old, to the great work being done in Nova Scotia under the guidance of St. Francis Xavier University, from the hundreds of credit unions in the farms and cities of prairie Canada to the lumber and fishing credit unions in B.C., everywhere the credit unions have their own peculiar approach to the financial needs of its members. It is not: how much can we make, have we adequate security, is the borrower solvent? For if the borrower is solvent he can borrow from a bank. No, the credit union yardstick is different. Is the loan needed; is it productive? The basic security on which the loan is made is character, the character of the borrower. By that I do not mean he has to wear a halo. He just has to be an ordinary citizen, such as you and I, who will do everything he can to pay his debts.

I remember in 1941 the women of High River wanted to know something about credit unions and invited me down to have a chat with them. At that first meeting a few of the women had brought their husbands. I remember those husbands; they didn't know anything about credit unions, weren't particularly interested, and were frankly sceptical about a women's credit union having a chance to survive for more than a few weeks.

Today those women have justified themselves in their own eyes as well as in the eyes of the men of the community. The women have proven what can be done by a group, any group, in any community, who have the courage and tenacity to go out and do something for themselves and others. The credit union is a weapon whereby a small group of people can get together and immediately start seeing and enjoying the fruits of their labor. There is nothing theoretical about it, nothing mysterious. The millions of dollars circulating within the credit union movement in Canada, owned by its own members and used by and for them, is a source of inspiration, of training, of character building the like of which is not seen in any other movement.

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If bacteria harmful to milk were visible to the human eye, dairymen would have much less trouble with the quality of milk production. However, bacteria may be present even on the cleanest-looking surface. There is only one sure way to keep milk rooms, stables, etc. sanitary: by cleaning thoroughly and also using a disinfectant that will kill germs harmful to livestock and milk.

Fortunately, both jobs — cleaning and disinfecting — can be done effectively at the same time with Gillett's Lye. Gillett's is an excellent general cleanser; lifts grime in dirt out of cracks and corners, and is particularly effective for dissolving milk traces and milk stone — the most likely breeding grounds for bacteria. And besides being a powerful cleansing agent, Gillett's Lye actually kills bacteria. This is important, as ordinary washing methods may only move bacteria from one place to another.

A Gillett's Lye solution for cleaning and disinfecting has the added advantages of being extremely simple to prepare, extremely low in cost. For general cleaning in the dairy, just add 3 teaspoons of Gillett's Lye to each gallon of cold water. You'll find regular cleaning with Gillett's improves milk quality and health of animals.

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Do milking machines produce milk with a high count of heat-resistant bacteria? This question is often asked by dairy farmers — and especially by those who have purchased milking machines, only to find a higher bacteria count. The accepted answer to this problem is that milking machines do not in themselves cause a higher bacteria count. It is largely lack of proper cleaning that causes a lowering in the quality of the milk. Most leading authorities — including government agriculture agencies — are unanimous in their choice of lye for cleaning and disinfecting the main "trouble spot" on milking machines — the rubber parts. Between milkings, the tubes and teat cups should be hung in a solution rack and kept filled with a lye solution (2 teaspoons of Gillett's to a gallon of water). Just before each milking, this solution should be poured out, and may be used to advantage to scrub down the milk room floor.

Gillett's Lye not only does a thorough cleaning and disinfecting job, it also helps preserve the rubber parts and extends their serviceable life.

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Dissolve 1 lb. of Gillett's Lye in 5½ gallons of water. To this solution add 2½ lbs. of water-slaked (not air-slaked) lime. Apply as ordinary whitewash.

**GENERAL FARM USES**

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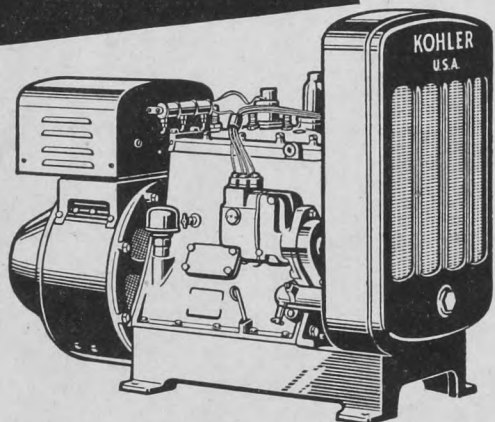
## COMING EVENTS

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## The Peace Of O-hoo

Continued from page 10

coup-sticks. In Mia-Gun's mind a plan was forming: he would win many battles, he would become a great War Chief whose name was feared throughout the land.

"Let us make a raid," he said to his fellow-braves. "Let us go to the country of our enemies. Our war whoops will fill them with dread. From our belts will hang many raw scalps, and our people will hail us as mighty warriors."

"A-yeel" agreed the young men.

So they fashioned their weapons in readiness. They held many contests of shooting and wrestling and mock-fighting with the short axes. They talked loudly about the enemy.

O-hoo, the Owl, heard their talk. He went directly to his friend the medicine man.

"This talk of war is wrong," the lame one said bluntly. "There is no good reason for it, and many against it. Look out beyond our tents and see how the hot sun has withered the grass. Clouds do not gather in the west; no rain has fallen. The game animals are leaving our ranges and seek food elsewhere. Therefore Mia-Gun and the young warriors should not go on the war trail."

Mus-ka-kee looked at the serious young man.

"Tell me how the brown grass spoils the war plans of Mia-Gun."

O-hoo had his reason ready: "We need every hunter to help feed our people. Soon the buffalo will be far away and our food pots empty. We should follow the herds now, seeking a place where the grass is green. When we find the large herds again, we should make the big kill and dry meat for the winter."

The medicine man said:

"Now you are speaking with good words, like a wise maker of medicines. The welfare of the people is our concern, and we will go to the chief with your message."

But Okima was in council with his head men. Mia-Gun and the young warriors stood in their finest buckskins on the other side of the fire. Mia-Gun was speaking, urging that every warrior in camp should take the war trail against their enemies.

"First," interrupted Mus-ka-kee, "listen to the words of O-hoo, the Owl."

But Mia-Gun cried: "What right has a limping cripple speaking here in a council of men?"

"Wait!" said Okima, who respected the wise Mus-ka-kee. "Let us listen to the young medicine man."

O-hoo spoke in council for the first time, giving his careful reasons. They could see that the prairies were parched under the hot sun. Everyone knew that the buffalo and herds of elk had moved away to fresh pastures. Lately, the hunters had brought in only small antelope and a few deer from the coulees. Every day the tribe's supply of pemmican and dried meat became smaller, and soon would be gone entirely. Therefore it was time to make the big hunt; it was time to make ready for the hungry moons of winter.

Mia-Gun laughed and said:

"Does O-hoo fear that his own stomach will be empty, because he cannot ride a hunting pony? Let him stop this worry! To keep him fat, I

will let him have the left-overs from my own hunting!"

From the women sitting outside the circle of councillors rang out the clear laughter of Pa-pee. Other maidens joined in this mirth, and so did the warriors gathered around the handsome Mia-Gun.

Okima raised his hand for silence, then Mus-ka-kee, the medicine man, said:

"O-hoo speaks wisely. Our hunters know the truth of his words. We cannot spare braves for the war trail until after the big hunt. If the grass burns dry throughout the land, the game will die for lack of food. The Indians will also starve. Let us make the hunt now, before it is too late!"

But the laughter had weakened O-hoo's message. And quickly Mia-Gun spoke again, raising high his war-bow and a full handful of flint-headed arrows. He spoke of the riches the warriors would bring back from the camps of the enemy. He spoke of the honors of war, the scalps and the horses. Were they all fat men, that they should be so concerned with eating? Let them show that they were braves, and go to war!

THE young women around Pa-pee cheered loudly, spurred on by the Laughing Maid. The warriors added their shouts; the tumult was great. When it died away a little, Mia-Gun smiled scornfully across at O-hoo and said:

"There will be time for hunting when we return, Lame Owl. Do not worry so much about your own lean belly."

Mus-ka-kee ruffled a hand over his tom-tom and rose to speak, but Mia-Gun made a signal and his young men suddenly raised their short axes and shrilled out the fearful war cry. At once, the young women yelled approval. Soon the whole camp was chanting the war song, then the squaws rushed to prepare a feast. Beside the red fires they gathered, the warriors dancing and telling of their battle deeds. In the morning Mia-Gun and all the warriors rode out of camp while the women and children and old men cheered.

O-hoo did not cheer; neither did Mus-ka-kee.

"You did not make a medicine talk," the old doctor chided his pupil. "Reason is not enough, when many people are together. Mia-Gun shouted loud and waved the war bow and spoke of prizes. You should have shouted louder, making talk about spirits and dreams and rich rewards, if and after they made ready for winter. That was the time for strange tricks and foo-faw talk."

O-hoo bowed his head, accepting the chastisement as just.

"But do not feel badly," Mus-ka-kee smiled. "There is a cloud in the sky this morning. Perhaps the rains will come at last."

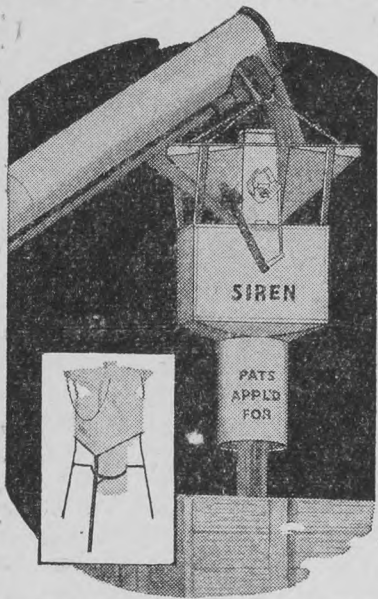
O-hoo said: "My heart is heavy with more things than failure. Pa-pee spat upon me as I walked past her and told me that she is to marry Mia-Gun when he returns. My own father rode with the warriors, to keep honor in the family. And yet—I still think the war raid is foolish. But perhaps I am the only foolish one in camp!"

He limped away to his cave to be alone.

The sun shone down, withering all greenery. Small ponds were sucked



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into the dry earth. Creeks faltered on their courses, brown stones showing where once clear water flowed. It was one of those times when rabbits die all over the woodlands, the grouse and prairie chicken disappearing with them. Hunting creatures were all hungry. By this time the buffalo had moved close to the mountains, leaving the prairies around Okima's camp bare of herd-life.

Soon the last pemmican was eaten, as O-hoo had prophesied. Then the saskatoon berries lost their plumpness and shrivelled on the bushes. The cherries that puckered the mouth were also wrinkled, with other fruits bearing scantily. The few old hunters who had stayed with the camp came back from their forays with empty hands.

"It will be different when Mia-Gun and the young men return," said Pa-pee. "He is a mighty hunter. He will kill many buffalo for us."

Some of the maidens agreed with her. But the older women were silent, setting out snares for gophers because their papooses were crying for food. Before long, even the yellow gophers were trapped scarce around that camp.

"We must move," O-hoo said to the medicine man. "Let us follow the buffalo to the mountains."

"It is too dangerous," answered Mus-ka-kee. "The mountain people live among those white hills, and now our camp is filled with women while our warriors are away. We could not risk hunting, with the hill men hostile. But on our own range, somewhere to the north, there is a large lake. I remember it from another famine year, when we went there to eat fish. We could feast again if we could find it."

Okima listened to his daughter. Pa-pee did not want the tribe to move, impatient as she was for the return of Mia-Gun. And Okima had an excuse, because Mus-ka-kee could not remember the trails that led to the lake.

O-hoo said: "On this birchbark draw me landmarks you remember, and I will go alone to see this lake. If I find it, I will return and tell what food is there for our people."

That is why the Owl was away when the enemy came to the camp. Mia-Gun and his warriors had ridden far, across the rolling prairie to the east. The drought had destroyed the grass, so their horses became thin. They were often hungry, and the older men advised that they return. But Mia-Gun waved his war bow and spoke grandly about enemy horses and scalps. They travelled on into the forbidden territory, weakened and hungry. And when they at last found the enemy camp, poor horses were hobbled there because the young men had taken the good ones away on a meat-hunt for buffalo. So Mia-Gun and his warriors killed a few braves and old men, then herded away a small score of scrawny horses. That night they made a feast of horse-flesh, but even Mia-Gun was silent about their battle deeds.

He was a good war chief. He knew that the enemy would want revenge on them, so Mia-Gun led the retreat through badland hills where they could not be seen a-far. It was the long way home, but they could not hurry in any case. They were weakened from hunger, their own horses were tired and thin, while the ponies they had captured were slow. Hence

Mia-Gun and his warriors went leisurely homewards, while the angry young men of the enemy camp followed the war party's coming trail directly back to Okima's camp. There had been no rain; the trail was clearly marked all the way.

Mus-ka-kee and other old ones were killed during that fierce attack at dawn. Herd boys were axed, their corral of horses stolen. Okima sent a single scream towards the sky when the raid was over, because the Laughing Maid had been carried away.

TO this stricken camp, O-hoo returned. Quickly he plied his medicine trade, for there were many wounds to tend. He daubed black paint upon his face, in mourning for his dead mother and for his friend the medicine man. And his heart cried in pain, thinking of the maiden Pa-pee.

"She is too beautiful for death," he told Okima.

The old chief was like a woman in sorrow, but O-hoo had no time for his own mourning. He hurried from tent to tent, giving herbs and dressing the axe and arrow wounds. He helped to bury the dead, chanting the ritual Mus-ka-kee had taught him. The air rang with the women's keening, the terrible song of death.

"Now we must move," counselled O-hoo. "The enemy knows our position and weakness. At the lake that Mus-ka-kee described, I found fish plentiful in the waters. We are not fish-eaters when buffalo are near, but now we have no choice. Strip the skins from your teepee poles, but pack no useless articles. The way is long, our horses few. Get ready for the trail!"

He had become the leader. Okima stayed in his tent, brooding about his lost flower. Mus-ka-kee, the wise one, slept under the roseroots, near O-hoo's cave. The old councillors were wounded and saddened by the death of dear ones. Women wailed the dirge. But O-hoo went through the camp, urging them to hurry.

"Do as the Lame One orders," said the wounded hunters, the old people, the mothers of herd-boys who were dead.

MIA-GUN and his gaunt warriors rode into the skeleton camp just as the people were ready to trek. Mia-Gun, the Wolf, raised the victory cry as he came galloping. But the song died in his throat when he saw the blackened faces of Okima's band. There was no more talk of battles and display of scalps that day. Under O-hoo's direction, the braves helped load the heavy packs on the captured ponies and put wounded and old people on the strongest horses. Then they moved away from the new graves, going north behind the limping Owl who was now the chief medicine man.

Mia-Gun walked at O-hoo's side, with an arrow notched on his bow-string in case the vengeful enemy returned.

O-hoo said: "Okima has told you about Pa-pee?"

"I heard," answered the Wolf. "I will mourn her as dead."

"But she is not dead," protested the lame one. "They would never kill so beautiful a maiden."

Mia-Gun glanced at him, his proud features set in stern lines.

"To me, she is dead," said the warrior.

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# Annual Meeting The Royal Bank of Canada Programme for Trade Recovery Calls for Exchange Stabilizer

*Canada's reputation, achievement and strength offset anxieties caused by world conditions--development of resources, increased population and foreign trade needed.*

A five-point programme for world recovery was a feature of James Muir's Presidential address at the Annual Meeting of shareholders of the Royal Bank of Canada. Mr. Muir also stressed Canada's economic development and her continuing role in world economy.

Mr. Muir suggested five steps towards international economic stability. "First, nations of the world should re-learn a basic lesson of the first world war, and settle their war debts. Thanks to Lend-Lease and Hyde Park, these debts today are confined largely to about £3½ billions which Britain owes for the most part to India and Egypt . . ."

"Second, for a certain fixed period, we should let the market determine rates of exchange, as it did immediately after the first world war. This means free exchanges, except for government pegging against violent movements due to speculative capital flows . . ."

"Third, at the end of this period of free-market valuation, we should stabilize currencies by reference to the rates which the free-market has determined."

"Fourth, having stabilized exchange rates at the level decreed by the free market, the world must adopt some device to keep them that way. The gold standard was such a device . . ."

"But," Mr. Muir added, "the modern vogue for managed currencies may force us to settle for a weaker compromise . . . Exchanges may be pegged not through the automatic mechanism of the gold standard but through the use of stabilization funds . . ."

"Fifth, the gold standard (or its equivalent) must be made to work by the proper discipline not only of debtor but of creditor nations as well. This means a return to the two basic requirements of responsible creditor nations: vigorous international lending and free trade . . ."

## THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

Mr. Muir discussed the Canadian economy in 1949 under four main heads: (1) Canada's reputation, (2) Canada's record, (3) Canada's weakness, and (4) Canada's strength.

(1) **Canada's Reputation.** As a nation, we have accomplished much; not all of it is good, but the power for good is there; and in 1949, as in previous years, our good repute is, in large measure, supported by our record.

(2) **Canada's Record.** Mr. Muir briefly summarized Canadian business conditions in 1949. The year saw "a further increase in Canada's industrial plant and equipment, the maintenance of the high levels of consumption attained in 1948, and the over-all expansion of the net and gross national product beyond the record levels of a year ago. He noted too that "Canada is one of the few countries today that can still boast a substantial budget surplus. This not only contributes to stability, but it turns prosperity to good account by improving the credit of the government."

(3) **Canada's Weakness.** Mr. Muir referred in some detail to Canada's export position and her vulnerability to the current unbalance in international markets.

"The plain truth," he concluded, "is that Canada's domestic prosperity depends upon our handling of a com-

plicated foreign-trade problem. And in the final analysis both our domestic prosperity and the future of world trade itself will depend upon a concerted international effort by all nations to return along the path we outlined earlier; that is, along the path to multi-lateral world trade unhampered by exchange restrictions, bilateral pacts, and all the paraphernalia of government control."

(4) **Canada's Strength.** Mr. Muir said: "It is refreshing to turn from Canada's difficulties in the next few months to her prospects over the next few years or better still over the next decade and many more to come. We have the essential elements that need only a little time to bring about an enormous increase in our national wealth. These sources of economic strength are our natural resources and the temper of our people."

Regarding Canada's international position in the long run, Mr. Muir observed "the world is gradually moving away from trade between industrialized countries and under-developed areas, away from trade that requires colonial dependence, to trade among industrial equals. And in this evolution of world economy, Canada is at present leading the way."

In the development of Canada's natural resources, their use by a larger population, and the exchange of her increased industrial output in "an expanding and enriched foreign trade," Mr. Muir saw "an effective guarantee that Canada shall achieve an assured and pre-eminent place in the economy of nations."

## GENERAL MANAGER'S ADDRESS

Mr. T. H. Atkinson, General Manager, reviewed the 1949 Annual Report and stated that the bank's assets had risen by \$112,498,000 during the year to \$2,334,985,000 and that liquid assets constituted 76.27% of the total liabilities to the public. Commercial loans had also increased. Mr. Atkinson reported deposits at a new all-time high of \$2,192,140,000, an amount two-and-a-half times that of nine years ago. The number of deposit accounts totalled nearly 2,000,000, which included more than 1,500,000 savings accounts in Canada. An increase of \$1,400,810 in profits over the previous year was noted by Mr. Atkinson and after providing for the customary deductions, including taxes of \$4,435,000 and dividends for shareholders, there was a carry forward in Profit and Loss Account of \$3,860,313.

## PROUD OF STAFF

A warm tribute to the bank staff was paid by Mr. Atkinson. "There's nothing this bank is prouder of than the quality of its personnel. Within every officer, I believe, there is a fine sense of pride in this great institution—pride not only in its achievements and its pre-eminent place in Canadian and world banking, but pride, too, in its being a good place to work. The executive, supervisors and branch managers have all travelled the long road of apprenticeship within the bank; they talk the same language as the young people who are following the same route, and they are united in trying to make working conditions as pleasant as possible."

O-hoo shook his head. But he was too busy for idle talk. Some of the badly wounded were dying, others needed constant attention. He had no time for his own grief, his mother's death and the message that his father had fallen while in the enemy camp. Now he was the medicine man, following the trade of the wise Mus-ka-kee. To some of the suffering people he spoke soothingly about the power of his cures; to others, he told comforting stories about the fate of the dead in the Ever-after; to everyone, he praised the fatness of the fish at the distant lake. But they had to hurry: the moon when birds fly south was waning. First snow was due.

At the lake they established their winter camp and wounds began healing. In the woodlands surrounding the wide waters the hunters found tracks of moose and elk and deer. Some of these fell to their arrows. Once again, the people feasted.

O-hoo would not let them rest. He directed the building of drying racks, ordering the children to gather willow-wood for meat smoking. He showed the women and old men how to build fish-traps, remembering the directions Mus-ka-kee had given him. The teachings of the old medicine man were often in his mind: the wise one had told him that busy people have no time to brood about trouble.

O-hoo kept them busy. The hunters had to go far into the woods to find game, but some animals were there and they killed a share. The fish-traps began to work. Soon the meat racks were bending under their smoking load, but O-hoo would not let the people take time for another feast. He told the people about the large houses and thick walls that muskrats were building right then, also the beaver. Hunters knew that moose had already gone to the thickest cover, followed by the deer. All the weather signs were bad; the winter was going to be hard.

So . . . he coaxed them to build more fish-traps. He set the children to gathering moss, using this to pile against the teepee walls to thicken them against the winds and cold to come. Old people dragged in dry branches and logs, heaping this firewood in great piles near every tent. The warriors continued to hunt, while squaws tended the fish-traps and the smoke-fires under the meat racks.

The people labored, almost forgetting their sufferings. Wounds were healed or healing, and sharp memories of dead faces faded as day followed day. Sometimes a young one raised a song; sometimes the old ones helped to sing it.

But in the assembly lodge, large, in the middle of the camp, Mia-Gun stood up beside the bright fires one evening and said:

"Now we are fat in our faces again, and the food-cache is full. Now is the time to talk of war—we must avenge our dead!"

The young warriors murmured approval, but there was a hush upon most of the people and the Laughing Maid was not there to rouse the women.

O-hoo said quietly: "Blood has been shed, for blood. By the scalp count, your warriors killed more people than our camp lost, so the enemy owe us nothing. Winter is near, and war talk is foolish at this time."

Mia-Gun shouted angrily: "Must we always do as this Lame One orders? Have you no pride, ye People of Okima? Our enemies laugh because we are like old women, fishing and drying meat and letting our dead ones sleep without honor!"

The mothers, the fathers, stirred uneasily at these words. Mia-Gun had not forgotten his dream of power. He had already talked to the young men while hunting, rousing them with visions of war glories. Now he made a strong talk, parading his great bow, his killing arrows, his coup-stick hanging with scalps. The young braves began to shout. One of them pounded on a hand-drum, the fast throb of the war dance. Some of them circled around Mia-Gun, shrilling out the battle cry.

But the people stayed silent. And suddenly, Okima the chief said:

"If you young braves want war, go and wage it! Take only your own horses, because we have none to spare. Take only your share of food, because we have been hungry. And do not wage war in the tribe's name, because O-hoo, the Owl, has told you rightly that there is no reason for us to seek revenge. It was you who brought the death-call into our teepees, by killing first. If you kill again, do so because of your own war lust. Not ours!"

Silently the young men filed out of the lodge. For a few days they kept quiet. Then the monotony of winter camp life palled on them. The weather was still mild, and Mia-Gun made another plea. One morning the young braves mounted their horses and rode away, chanting the war song. But this time the people did not cheer.

FOR a little while the camp murmured with talk about this. O-hoo urged them on to other tasks. Trapping for fur animals began, while women mended clothing and made new garments. A young maid timidly offered O-hoo a beautifully decorated vest as a present, but he did not accept it nor her favors. He still remembered the Laughing One, Pa-pee.

Then the winter came upon them in all its fury. First, the heavy snows falling thickly and wet, then the howling winds and drifting, and finally the still and tingling cold. The people were happy about their large food-cache. They sat around their teepee fires, playing the game of marked stones and others. Women taught songs to the children, while old men sat smoking in comfort, staring into the flames.

O-hoo brooded alone in his medicine lodge. Mus-ka-kee would have approved of all that he had done. Most of the people were safe and happy, with enough food to last until the Moon of Melting Ice.

But . . .

The young warriors were on the war trail again. The tribe needed them, as a man needs his strong right arm. If the braves were successful and lifted more scalps, the enemy would come after revenge in the springtime. Okima's band might easily be wiped out, because the enemy was a much larger tribe in number than their own. If only Mia-Gun did not hunger so for a War Chief's glory!

And besides like a lonely cry in the night was O-hoo's heart. He saw in every fire the laughing features of Pa-pee, the maiden he loved. What had happened to her?



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He was soon to know, because one day Mia-Gun and his warriors came silently through the white woods to the snug camp beside the lake. They came slowly, walking single file and leading their exhausted horses. The strongest horse carried a burden, and the young men led this animal to O-hoo's lodge and called out the medicine man.

"This boy is of the enemy tribe," explained a brave. "We did not reach their camp, but found him alone on the prairie. He was digging for a mouse, for food. Look how thin he is. He told us that his people were dying of starvation, because there are no buffaloes near their camp."

"So you did not carry the war axe to their lodges?"

The brave shook his head.

"Mia-Gun . . ." He paused, looking around. But Mia-Gun had gone to his own lodge, out of hearing. "Mia-Gun wanted us to make the raid and kill them all, but . . . is there honor in killing people who are already half-dead? We held a show of hands, and he was the only one who wanted war. So we are back again, with this skinny one as our only prize. He has news of Pa-pee."

O-HOO'S medicines brought health back to the enemy boy. Good food and warmth were part of the cure. Then the youth told the assembled people a terrible tale of hunger. All over the prairie, there was famine. His own tribe had sought help before winter from their traditional friends at the meeting of waters, but even there, buffalo were not plentiful and there was no food to spare. Their camp had already lost a third of its numbers, to starvation. His own father, the chief, was dying of a wound suffered during Mia-Gun's first raid. The wound and hunger were killing him slowly.

Asked about Pa-pee, he said:

"She was very beautiful, so one of the warriors took her to his teepee. She was still alive when I left camp, because the warrior is a good hunter and has been able to secure a little food. But . . . the whole camp will soon be full of ghosts, unless the buffalo come back."

Okima asked: "Is my daughter happy?"

The boy was a chief's son, and answered truthfully.

"She weeps."

Okima wrapped his robe around him and went away. O-hoo followed and said:

"We could be friends with our enemies. We could unite with them, and all the prairies between the two great rivers would be safe for our women and children, without fear of war in the years to come."

"How could this be?"

"Let me go with this boy back to their camp. Let me drag a sleigh-load of food—or as many sleigh-loads as we can take, if any will go with me. When we have given them this food, let me guide them back to our safe camp here, to share our security in this time of famine. We would win their lasting friendship, by doing this. And . . . Pa-pee would come home again, if she is still alive."

Okima smoked for a long time, then said:

"With so many in camp, we would all be half hungry. But there are more fish in the lake, and you have taught

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us how to make bone hooks. While you are gone, I could have the people fish and build new lodges to house the enemy. If Pa-pee lives, tell her my teepee is waiting to welcome her."

The tribe listened to the plan that night at the council fire. There was never anything like this before, the old men murmured. Some of the warriors looked towards Mia-Gun, who said:

"This is a lame one's plan, to avoid a man's way of fighting. We could have killed them all, then the wide prairies would belong to us alone. This we can still do. I will lead the war party myself, if you will come. But I am against O-hoo's plan."

A brave spoke: "I will not kill dying people! Mia-Gun is the only warrior who wants to make war upon the half-dead. When I saw the starved face of the enemy boy, I no longer walked the warpath. O-hoo's plan is strange and new, but I will go with him."

Okima said: "We would all be hungry, were it not for O-hoo, the Owl. Do not forget this! He led us to this lake, he showed us how to make the fish-traps. He made our hunters seek out the scarce game and had our women hang it on the smoke-racks. We have a large food-cache. Our houses are warm because of his plan of thickened walls, and we have firewood in plenty. All this was O-hoo's way, and if he wants to share our riches with hungry people—I say it is a noble thing to do. How many young men will follow him?"

THIS is how it happened, the peacemaking of Okima's tribe with the hungry enemy. This is how Pa-pee, who used to be the Laughing One, came home to her father. No longer proud, Pa-pee. No longer laughing, nor smiling at the young men. Her beauty had gone, and she was nearly dead when the food-sleighs reached the enemy camp. The frozen fish was made into soup, then the dying people swallowed it and lived. O-hoo put medicine on the chief's wound, his skill winning him back to life again. The chief survived the long trek to the lake and rose humbly in the council lodge, bowing before Okima with many thanks.

So the peace pipe was smoked, and Pa-pee came home. She had lived with an enemy warrior; she was big with child. Mia-Gun would not look at her again. He became a mighty hunter, but he took no more scalps from the prairie enemy.

Because there was finally peace between the tribes that lived on the lands bordered by the two east-flowing rivers, a peace brought about by the Lame One, O-hoo. It is all written here in pictures, in his cave where he used to seek guidance from the Great Spirit of Kitche-manitoo.

And Pa-pee went to live in the medicine lodge of O-hoo, as his wife. Even before she went to the woman-hut to bear her child, she wed O-hoo under her father's blessing and with the full permission of the enemy warrior who had taken her to his blanket. Pa-pee went humbly to O-hoo's tent, but she became proud again as she lived with him. This time her pride was in the goodness of her wise husband, and beauty grew sweetly into her face again, nourished in the garden of his love.

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# The Countrywoman

THE little girl with fair hair and blue eyes sat quietly in the church pew between her aunt and uncle. Outside, the Sabbath-subdued traffic of London poured past. Inside, the ritual of the Church of England service flowed graciously on. The little girl sang the hymns fervently and listened intently to the reading of the lessons, but her deep blue eyes hardly ever left the chancel where lavishly embroidered pulpit hangings and altar frontals shone richly in the candlelight. Sometimes her fingers moved as though she were pushing an embroidery needle in and out through a design. Her eyes glowed then and her face filled with eagerness.

The little girl Emily grew into a slim, lovely young woman whose talent for painting beautiful watercolors of garden and field flowers was already causing quite a stir among her friends and acquaintances. She was an accomplished needlewoman and took much interest in church affairs. One day a friend said to her casually:

"The children of Fareham Parish Church are looking for someone to make a banner for them. The church has just been restored. The children want to contribute something beautiful that would be worthy of the restoration. They thought a very special banner would be a suitable gift."

"Oh, that's just the sort of thing I would love to do!" Emily said.

The idea germinated. It grew and grew until it became a beautiful banner measuring eight feet six inches long. The centre picture of this banner would be a brown galleon in full canvas-colored sail with a red cross on the foresail and a red pennant streaming across a teal-blue sky. It would show a rough, blue-green sea with white-crested waves.

The girl, now a young woman, did it. She did it in her spare time in a small bedroom that was so crowded with canvases and the Banner that she hardly had room to move. She did it without pay.

"You're crazy to go to all that bother and never get a penny for it," said her friends.

But Emily only shook her blonde head and went on with her task of love. She got a well-known landscape artist, Mr. George Ayling, to execute the design. Then she transferred it by "pouncing" to the piece of Albanian linen she had procured specially. This took the equivalent of two whole days in time. She pin-pricked every line of the drawing with a small ordinary pin onto a sheet of tracing paper. Imagine the patience needed to prick all the tiny holes—each one an eighth of an inch from the next—required for the rigging of the galleon! Then the whole thing must be placed on the linen and charcoal rubbed carefully into it before the tracing could be lifted. When the 39 by 27-inch design stood in dotted black lines on the linen it must be painted over, with much care and delicacy, in black ink. Only then could the actual embroidery work begin.

PENNIES and half-pennies began to come in a steady flow from the children of Fareham Parish Church. They went to buy the 332 skeins of floss, the gold thread, the gold tassels and cords that went into the banner. The children insisted that only the very best materials be used. It took a great many pennies. The girl would not accept one of them for herself. She was doing something she wanted to do. She was creating beauty for the glory of God and for the happiness of those of whom it had been said "of such is the Kingdom of Heaven."

Through the scented dawns of two English springs, through the long summer twilights and the flaming noons of autumn, through the rainy evenings of winter she sat with fair head bent over the embroidery frame. In and out went the shining needle in her slender fingers. The design took form and grew and as it grew her joy increased. To anyone else the work would have been unbearably tedious. To her—as she told a friend—it was "restful, interesting, delightful."

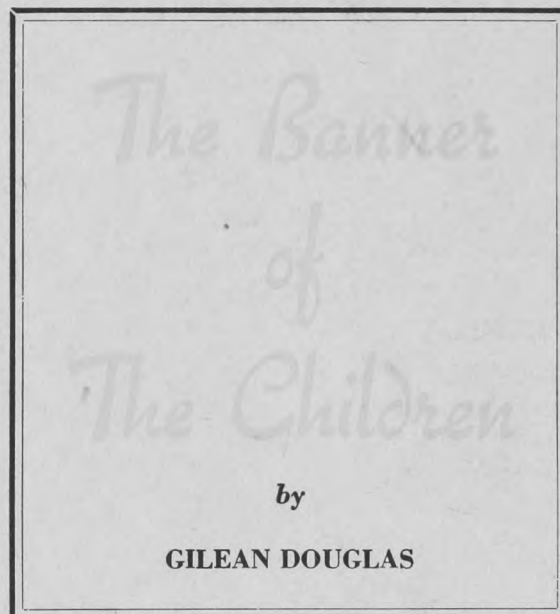
"It's odd," she said to this same friend, "but I feel almost as though my Huguenot ancestors were

*For February this page is devoted to the story of an artist whose inspiration and labors produced a thing of beauty. It is told for us by her friend, a woman who has herself won a high place as a writer of poetic verse and prose*

by AMY J. ROE

helping me now! They were such skilled craftsmen—and ecclesiastical embroidery is a skilled craft all its own. I've never done any before, yet somehow some force seems to be guiding me to do the right thing. At each step of the way I seem to know instinctively how to work and plan the next step."

Finally the hundreds of hours of work in that tiny bedroom came to an end—14 months after they had begun. The last, the last of many thousand, the very last stitch of the Banner was put in. Quickly the girl spread clean, white sheets on the floor and laid the Banner on them. In one corner she sewed a piece of parchment on which she had written, in



India ink, the reason for the Banner, its dates and her own name. Perhaps when the Banner fell to pieces that record would come to light. Others would then know how it came into being.

This done, the girl looked earnestly at her completed work. The picture glowed with life and color. It was surrounded by 10-inch wide, white ecclesiastical orphreys or borders upon which, in three-quarter-inch letters of Japanese untarnishable gold thread, were embroidered the words: "Children's Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Fareham." The entire Banner was backed with gold and white brocade and edged with gold cord and fringe. It was a beautiful thing. She touched it reverently. Slowly and reluctantly she wrapped it away in protecting sheets.

That was the day of the completion of the Banner. The next day was the day of the "miracle"—or that's what Emily called it. She had already received word that her first picture had been accepted and hung by the Society of Women Artists at their exhibition in the Royal Institute Galleries in Piccadilly. On the day of the miracle, she was told that it had been bought by Queen Mary of England.

"Now does that give you your answer?" she asked her family and friends. "Could I have made the Banner for money? Isn't it much better this way?"

It was the month of June when the Banner was finished, but it was not until the following September that it was taken out of the white sheets for the last time. On the 17th of that month, Emily, who had been staying in Fareham, was invited to a meeting of the Children's Church Council. She

went casually, expecting a small, informal gathering of the children whose pennies and ha'pennies had made the Banner possible. She found a big hall filled with children, clergymen and adult officers of the church. It was a surprise party! At its climax she was presented with a gold cross and chain on which were engraved her name, the date and the words, "From the Children's Church of Fareham." The children had collected more pennies.

The next afternoon, Sunday, September 18, 1932, the dedication of the Banner was performed by the Bishop of Portsmouth. Every pew was filled and people stood at the back of the church. Emily sat quietly among the children. When the Banner on its oaken pole was carried in by the proud boy who had been chosen for that honor, she looked up, startled. Surely she had not created that lovely thing which seemed to shine with an unearthly radiance in the rainbow light which streamed through the stained-glass windows! It looked so strange, so wonderful in its true setting! She couldn't take her eyes away from it.

THEN the Bishop began to speak and she felt a thrill of amazement go through her. Although the Bishop had never seen the Banner before and although he had never spoken a word to her, yet he might have known them both for a long time. He put into words, simply and inspiringly, the very thoughts which had passed through her mind as she worked the Banner, stitch by stitch. He explained that the ship, plowing its way through turbulent waters, symbolized not only the children of Fareham Church, the spirit of youth, but all of us; putting out into the unknown, riding the rough sea of life, but sailing always under the symbol of the church, always under the sign of the Cross. Yet sometimes, the Bishop said, we forget our great skipper and think we can steer all by ourselves. Then we get off our course and we may even be wrecked on some rock or shoal. But if we keep our destination in mind, if we have a true purpose in life, doing our best and believing in the best, then we shall come safely into harbor at last. With God at the helm we have no need of fear.

When the Bishop finished, the girl's eyes were wet. Yes, she thought, that was exactly what I wanted the Banner to represent; that was just the way I imagined it. How wonderful that the Bishop should know! She hardly heard him when he began to say complimentary things about the maker of the Banner, describing it as "not only a thing of beauty, but an inspiration." In her own mind she was back in her little room stitching in long, long thoughts with the scarlet and blue and gold threads.

Then everyone was congratulating her. A friend, grasping both her hands, said earnestly: "My dear, you were right and I was wrong. I thought the Banner was lovely when I saw it in your room, but seeing it here in its own setting I can understand exactly what you meant when you said it was its own reward. You could not have done it for money."

A glass case was made so that the Banner could be on view at all times and not just on special occasions. It is still safe in the glass case, in spite of the heavy bombings that went on around it all through the war. And the girl too is safe. She is a Canadian now and she lives in Victoria, British Columbia. Her watercolors of garden and wild flowers have been exhibited from one end of the country to the other. Queens and princesses own her paintings. Her floral notes and greeting cards have gone out through the world. They are sailing the seven seas on the menus of the famous P. and O. liners.

You do not have to look very closely at this now well-known woman to see in her the earnest little girl who sat in a London church between her aunt and uncle and gazed longingly at the embroidered altar cloths. Sometimes you notice her fingers moving a little, as though she were pushing an embroidery needle in and out through a design and her thoughts seem far away.

"Emily," you say, "Emily Sartain!" And she will look up, laughing.

# Our Day With The Clinic



*Making a blood donation is a simple and comfortable procedure.*

ON a sunny afternoon last summer, our little town of Alix was host to a friendly and interesting gathering. Our visitors, for the most part, were fellow citizens from the town itself and from adjoining country points. Our special guests were a group of attractive and efficient young women. The occasion was Blood Donor Clinic Day. We were privileged in having with us one of the mobile donor clinics sent out by the Alberta Red Cross Society. The personnel came to us as strangers but before the day was over we all felt that we had gained some good, new friends.

Our U.F.A. hall has in its time served in many capacities, housing in turn: flower shows, library activities, baby clinics, dances and meeting place for a variety of organizations. It took on an entirely new appearance that afternoon. In, what seemed to us, just a few short minutes it was transformed into a professional and antiseptic-looking hospital ward.

It was our first experience of having a clinic of this type in our midst. True, some of us had donated blood before, especially during the war years when those in the armed services gave regularly and those of us at home had welcomed the opportunity to help when a call came. We had prepared ourselves for this occasion. We had previous information as to what would be expected of us. We had signed up a required number of donors. These had been notified by card of the time and place for their appointments. We had delegated some of our number to serve lunch to the donors, after making their contribution. Others were to help with the rest beds. Several men volunteered their services to help the Red Cross girls unload their equipment.

Ours was not a particularly large clinic. It was estimated that a half day would be sufficient in which to take the blood donations. At 12 o'clock noon a somewhat imposing array of heavy vehicles rolled along the town's main street and drew up in front of the hall. The clinic personnel consisted of a doctor, a nurse, three drivers and five V.A.D.'s. Considerable interest was shown by the bystanders as the smart, uniformed figures alighted from the vans. Those of us who were in charge felt vaguely apprehensive. Would everything be all right? Would the people who signed up, come? Would our helpers be on hand? And

those trim, efficient young women! Would they be satisfied with the accommodation provided? Or would



*Efficient young workers set up clinic equipment in local hall.*

they perhaps be a bit snuffy about the lack of running water and other modern conveniences? Were they the hard-boiled type?

We need not have worried. I have yet to see a more friendly and co-operative group than the personnel of this particular clinic unit, which serves northern Alberta. Throughout that busy afternoon, the attitude of the workers toward the voluntary helpers and the donors was friendliness personified. The ingenuity and resourcefulness which they used to overcome unforeseen difficulties was praiseworthy. It was an education for us to see the ease and the speed with which they unloaded their equipment from the big van and set up shop in the hall. Each member of the team had a particular job to do. It seemed no time at all before the cots, mattresses, pillows, blankets, etc., were set up in orderly fashion. Basins, pails, technical apparatus and refrigerator truck were all at hand in readiness for the task ahead.

The Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service is becoming increasingly well known throughout Canada. It is now established as a national project. It already operates for seven provinces

*How our little Alberta community played host to a mobile clinic thus becoming a part of the work of mercy carried on by the Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service*

by BARBARA VILLY CORMACK

and soon will be extended from coast to coast. Its object is to supply "free transfusions" in case of emergency or treatment need, to all Canadians. Already thousands of our people have received "the gift of life" through these efforts. At great expense the Red Cross has set up depots, laboratories and clinics to continuously collect, prepare and transport blood so that people will not die for the want of it.

OUR half-day clinic was a small but an important part of the effort to enlist donors. In Alberta the Red Cross

—blood in a dried form—which keeps indefinitely under proper conditions. All blood taken is classified according to "type." When a call is made for whole blood of a certain type, this is rushed to the hospital by special carrier. The hospitals in turn agree to administer transfusions without charge to the patients they serve. It is estimated that 700 donations of blood are required each week to meet the demand in Alberta alone. It takes from four and one-half to five donations (12 ounces each), to make sufficient quantity of plasma for one transfusion.

In order to supply whole blood of the right types, the Red Cross depots maintain a 24-hour service. When a request comes in from an isolated area the blood is flown to its destination. In other cases the clinic transport drivers convey it in motor vehicles. This entails a great amount of driving. The Edmonton depot, serving the northern half of Alberta, estimates that its vehicles cover an average of 6,000 miles in a month, transporting the clinic unit and delivering blood supplies. This particular transport section was recently awarded a certificate for safe driving, from the Edmonton Safety Council, having completed 100,000 miles, during 15 months of operations, without an accident. In covering far-off points and places inaccessible by ordinary means of transportation, the clinics have the co-operation of the R.C.A.F. Just before coming to us the clinic unit had visited Yellowknife.

The procedure of the clinic in taking donations of blood is very simple and reassuring to the donor. A preliminary finger prick test determines whether the prospective donor is physically fit to donate blood and also determines the blood group or "type." The individual lies on one of the beds provided and 12 ounces or 380 c.c.'s

now supplies whole blood and plasma to 123 hospitals. To meet emergencies the hospitals are supplied with plasma



*Contribution of 651 bottles of blood from Red Deer arrives at Edmonton Depot.*

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Any druggist can supply you with a 2½ ounce bottle of Pinex. Pour this into a 16-oz bottle, and fill up with granulated sugar syrup to make 16 ounces. To make syrup, use 2 cups of sugar and one cup of water and stir a few moments until dissolved. No cooking needed. (Or you can use corn syrup or liquid honey, instead of sugar syrup.) It's no trouble at all and gives you four times as much cough medicine for your money—a real family supply. Keeps perfectly and tastes fine. It is surprising how quickly this loosens the phlegm, soothes the irritated membranes, and helps clear the air passages. This 3-fold action explains why it relieves an annoying cough in a hurry.

Pinex is a special compound of proven ingredients, in concentrated form, a very reliable soothing agent for winter coughs. Money refunded if it does not please you in every way.

are taken. He is then directed by one of the local helpers to another bed upon which he rests for ten minutes. The helper puts on a dressing. After resting he goes to a tea table where he spends a sociable few minutes with fellow donors and enjoys light refreshments.

It is scarcely necessary to mention the tremendous good the Blood Transfusion Service accomplishes. Day after day, our newspapers and radio reports tell of lives saved by the prompt and efficient use of transfusion therapy. The report of any major disaster, accident, fire, etc., is not complete without mention being made that the Red Cross rushed bottles of blood to the scene.

Though the use of transfused blood in accident cases is perhaps the most dramatic, the most publicized, it is by no means the only one. The service is used in many cases of weakness or prolonged illness. Another side feature is the free Rh. testing for expectant mothers. As a result of this service a doctor can now advise an expectant mother whether or not the Rh. factor of incompatibility exists between her and her unborn child. If it is determined that the "antibodies" are present in the baby's blood, then replacement transfusions may be given at the time of the child's birth.

We were proud to have our community have even a little part in a splendid and widespread service.

## A Saving Gift

Our blood is a peculiar commodity in that it can be obtained only from human sources. It cannot be manufactured in a test tube, nor is there any adequate substitute.

Blood should not be bought or sold as a commercial commodity for it represents the free gift of one man to another in order that human life may be saved.

In one year 6,800 persons met violent deaths in Canada, many of whom would be alive today had immediate transfusion facilities been available.

In one year, over 21 per cent of all maternal deaths were due to hemorrhage — fully three-quarters of these lives might have been saved by immediate transfusions.

Adequate transfusion facilities mean that illness, previously rated as hopeless, can be cured; "inoperable conditions" can be made safe for surgery; several diseases of infancy, once incurable, can be successfully treated.

YOU can volunteer for this life-saving service if you are between the ages of 18 and 65.

YOU can give blood without discomfort and without danger to health or efficiency. Your clinic is manned by specially-trained doctors and nurses in whom you may have complete confidence.

YOU will be asked to give your blood on an average of only twice a year.

YOU can tell your friends of this great life-saving service and ask them to register as volunteer blood donors at your local Red Cross branch or clinic.

Red Cross points of appeal in National Campaign objective.



## Flavory orange-filled rolls

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No more poor results from yeast that loses strength because it's perishable! This new fast acting yeast needs no refrigeration—keeps full-strength right in your pantry.

If you bake at home, get a month's supply of Fleischmann's Royal Fast Rising Dry Yeast. At your grocer's now.

### ORANGE-FILLED ROLLS

Makes 2 Dozen

Measure into large bowl  
1/2 cup lukewarm water  
1 teaspoon granulated sugar  
and stir until sugar is dissolved.  
Sprinkle with contents of  
1 envelope Fleischmann's  
Royal Fast Rising Dry Yeast  
Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well!  
In the meantime, scald  
3/4 cup milk  
Remove from heat and stir in  
1/4 cup granulated sugar  
2-1/4 teaspoons salt  
4-1/2 tablespoons shortening  
Cool to lukewarm and add to yeast mixture; stir in  
1/4 cup lukewarm water  
Stir in  
2-1/4 cups once-sifted bread flour  
and beat until smooth; work in  
2-1/4 cups more once-sifted bread flour  
Turn out on lightly-floured board and knead dough lightly until smooth and elastic. Place in greased bowl, brush top with melted butter or shortening. Cover and set dough in warm place, free from draught. Let rise until doubled in bulk. While dough is rising, prepare

#### ORANGE FILLING

Combine in a saucepan  
2-1/2 tablespoons corn starch  
1/2 cup granulated sugar  
Gradually blend in  
1/3 cup cold water  
1/3 cup orange juice

1-1/2 tablespoons lemon juice  
and add  
1 tablespoon grated orange  
rind  
1 teaspoon grated lemon rind

Bring to the boil, stirring constantly; boil gently, stirring constantly, until smoothly thickened; cool.

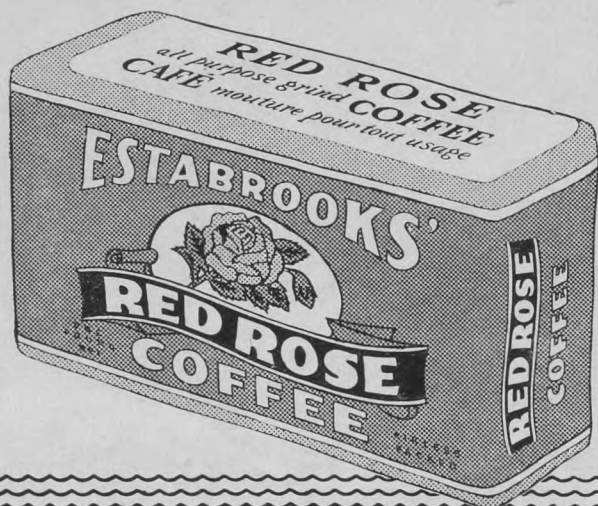
Punch down dough; form into a smooth ball. Roll into an oblong ¼-inch thick and 26 inches long; loosen dough from board. Spread with cooled orange filling.

Beginning at a long edge, roll up loosely, like a jelly roll. Cut into 1-inch slices. Place in greased muffin pans. Grease tops. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in moderate oven, 350°, about 25 min. Serve hot, with butter or margarine.



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## Cake Icings

A variety of ideas for top dressings

**I**CING—snowy white, pastel tinted or dark with chocolate will make that cake even more appealing to both the eye and appetite. It also helps to keep the cake from drying out.

Icings, or frostings as they are often called, can be of the cooked or uncooked type. They are primarily sweet in flavor but some additional flavoring is desirable. This flavoring may be supplied by an extract, chocolate, cocoa, brown sugar, honey, molasses, fruit juice or strong coffee. Nuts, coconut, crushed candy, grated fruit rind or candied fruit add decoration and texture contrast as well as their individual flavors. Flavorless vegetable coloring will give the right tint for a special occasion such as a youngster's birthday party. But use it only in minute proportions.

For something quite different, or when in a rush, try a topping that can be spread on the cake before it is popped into the oven. A crumb of flour, or crushed corn flakes, butter and brown sugar spread on the cake dough is very nice. Or mix coconut and chopped walnuts into a beaten egg. Spread it over the cake just before it is completely baked, then return it to the oven for 10 minutes.

Uncooked cake toppings are easily made, take but a few minutes and can be applied to a cake that is still slightly warm. In fact, the warmth will keep the icing from hardening too soon. Brush off the loose crumbs and if there is a cut surface to be iced, a thin coating may be applied and allowed to set; the second coat will cover up the crumbs.

Apply the icing to the sides of the cake first. Spread the remainder over the top, smoothly or in swirls or ridges as desired. For a glossy surface with uncooked icing the spatula may be dipped frequently in hot water during the frosting period.

Confectioners' sugar is used in a good many of the uncooked icings. The thin glaze that is often used to ice sweet breads and rolls is made by beating hot water or fruit juice into the powdered sugar until the mixture is of spreading consistency. A little butter may be melted in the hot liquid for added flavor. When a cake is iced with this mixture it should be eaten the same day because the glaze hardens on standing. Another type of confectioners' icing is one in which butter or shortening is creamed with the sugar and flavoring, then liquid added to make the mixture spread easily. Egg white beaten with icing sugar and then a liquid added makes a third type.

There are a number of other uncooked toppings suitable for use on cake. Among these are the following:

Honey beaten with egg white. Corn syrup spread on cake and sprinkled with lemon rind. Molasses stirred with whipped cream. Marshmallow halves arranged on cake and covered with melted sweet chocolate. Softened butter or margarine spread on cake with brown sugar and chopped nuts sprinkled on top. Jelly beaten with egg white.

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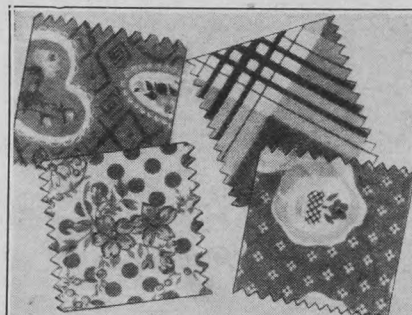
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# The Quick-Method Cake

An understanding of the new method and handling of ingredients makes for light and tender cakes

by LILLIAN VIGRASS



Tempt callers with this tasty, quickly-made spice cake.

IN the past few years homemakers the country over have become acquainted with or at least heard of quick-method cakes.

This method of cake making was made possible by a new treatment in the manufacture of certain hydrogenated vegetable shortenings by the addition of new and different fats that possess special cake-making qualities. This type of shortening may be referred to as an emulsifier-type of shortening and can be recognized by its soft, smooth and creamy consistency.

A recipe especially balanced for the quick-method cake is necessary for best results. It is not advisable to try to use the proportions of ingredients given for conventional cake with the quick-method techniques. Quick-method recipes call for a higher proportion of sugar and of liquid. Extra leavening is also used.

These cakes are moister when first baked and remain fresh and moist for a longer time. The texture of the two types of cakes differ. Quick-method cakes have pin-point fine, uniform grain and a soft, melting texture. Conventional cakes are coarser in grain, open-textured and feathery. Personal likes or dislikes will probably determine the type of cake one prefers to make.

Fat is dispersed in the batter in the form of small lakes. These lakes of fat entrain air bubbles. How well the fat is able to hold the air in the batter during baking determines to a large extent how fluffy and light the cake will be. In the conventional method the creaming helps incorporate the air. With this newer type of shortening it is easier to trap and hold air and so creaming is replaced by beating; too, the lakes of fat are more finely divided and more evenly distributed in the batter. Because the air bubbles in the batter are held in the fat, distribution of air in the mixture is more uniform.

Quick-method cakes are made without creaming the fat and sugar. This

is the biggest difference between the quick and conventional method. The actual mixing of the quick-method cake may be done in about one-third the usual time. Most recipes for the quick method call for two stages of beating. These beating periods, expressed as minutes or number of strokes, vary slightly according to the recipe. However, the total beating time is approximately the same and the cakes of similar quality. The first beating may blend together the dry ingredients, the shortening and part of the milk; the second beating then would blend in the rest of the milk and the eggs. Or the first beating may

blend all the ingredients except the milk which is then saved for the second stage of mixing. The time to add the baking powder varies with the recipe. In some it is sifted with the dry ingredients. In others it is stirred into the batter at the end of the first beating period.

In the quick method as in the conventional all ingredients should be at room temperature. The shortening needs to be soft so the lumps of fat can be worked out quickly and easily. The type of shortening is important; it must be soft and creamy, and of the emulsifier type.

The likelihood of failure in cake making is very small when quick-method recipes are used. You will find directions are so precise there is little chance for misinterpretation. As one continues to use the quick method, mixing techniques are developed and improved just as in the conventional method; therefore better results and delicious cakes are obtained with added experience.

## Layer Cake

2 1/4 c. cake flour	1/2 c. high grade
3 tsp. baking powder	shortening
1 tsp. salt	1 tsp. vanilla
1 1/2 c. granulated sugar	1 c. milk
	2 eggs, unbeaten

Sift flour, measure and add baking powder, salt and sugar. Sift into the mixing bowl. Add vegetable shortening. Add 2/3 of the cup of milk and flavoring. Beat for 200 strokes (two minutes) with the mixing spoon. Add unbeaten eggs and remainder of milk. Beat 200 strokes (two minutes). Divide batter evenly into two 9-inch cake pans. Bake at 375°F for 25 to 30 minutes. Let stand five minutes then loosen the sides of the cake from the pan. Invert on cooling rack.

## Banana Cake

2 c. sifted cake flour	1/4 c. milk
1 tsp. baking soda	1 tsp. vanilla
1/2 tsp. salt	2 eggs
1/4 c. vinegar	1 1/2 c. sugar
1 c. mashed bananas	1/2 c. emulsifier-type shortening



## ROBIN HOOD RAISIN PIE

"Um-m-m, good! Deeply delicious raisin pie that's a year 'round favorite!"

— says Rita Martin

"And here's all you need":

### PIE CRUST

- 1 1/2 cups sifted Robin Hood Flour (it's guaranteed\*, for best results)
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup chilled lard or shortening
- Cold water

### FILLING

- 1 1/2 cups water
- 1 3/4 cups seedless raisins
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose Robin Hood Flour
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 lemon: juice and grated rind

"A mouth-watering dessert, for sure! The choice of men every time — and of all the family!"

"Your success is certain in baking this pie... as it is in all your baking... if you use only Robin Hood Flour — it's all-purpose — it's guaranteed!"

"Here's all you do":

### PIE CRUST

Sift flour and salt together.

Cut half of shortening into Robin Hood Flour until fine and mealy. Use pastry blender or two knives.

Cut remaining shortening into above mixture until it is about the size of small peas.

\*Certificate with every bag guarantees your money back plus 10% if you're not entirely satisfied.

Add cold water very gradually (1/2-1/2 cup), mixing lightly until pastry can be pressed together.

Roll tightly in waxed paper and chill.

Roll pastry; line an 8-inch pie plate.

### FILLING

Heat water to boiling point and add raisins; simmer for 10 minutes.

Combine sugar, flour, salt and lemon rind and add to hot mixture.

Add lemon juice and cook until thick, stirring constantly; cool.

Spread filling evenly in lined pie plate and cover with top crust.

Bake in a hot oven, 425°F., 20 to 25 minutes.

## A WORD FROM RITA MARTIN:

"This is just one of many really fine recipes I have available for you in the Robin Hood Home Service Department. Any special baking tips or information you may want

are yours, free, for the asking. Just write me."

Rita Martin

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# Looking Ahead to Summer

*Frequent care and complete relaxation is essential to good looks at this season of the year*

by LORETTA MILLER

**T**HE way you look in your chic summer dresses, your bathing suit and your play clothes will depend largely on what you do with yourself between now and then. Forgetting to watch your posture, improper care of the facial skin, too few shampoos, and neglect of the fingertips may spell disaster to your summer good looks.

During the winter months, when one naturally spends more time indoors than out, and when heavier foods make up the major portion of the diet, the skin generally requires special care. It is at this time that one is less active and that more sweets, fried foods and starches are eaten, and this may reflect in a sluggish complexion as well as overweight. Too, hot water isn't always available and the quick, "lick and promise" given the skin with icy water isn't likely to do much cleansing. The dash of cold water as a morning eye-opener is splendid, however, even if it is a brutal way of shocking us into wakefulness. But for real skin cleansing use either warm water or a good cream. It is important to remove all cream before putting on makeup.

If the skin is given rather sketchy cleansings because of the water situation, it's a good practice to give the complexion a thorough soap and water scrubbing every two or three days. At the same time lather a stiff-bristled brush well and scrub elbows, hands and fingertips. Then after rinsing off all soap, dash lots and lots of cold water over face and throat.

Cold water is a splendid circulation stimulant. This, in turn, is a natural corrective for almost all surface disorders of the skin. If the skin feels the least bit dry or taut after washing, a thin film of any greasy or lubricating cream should be applied. Use hand lotion liberally over hands, arms and elbows during the winter months, both before and after washing and before and after exposure. Use it, too, before going to bed.

How will too frequent brushings and shampooing reflect in next summer's beauty picture? This lack of care will dull the hair, giving it a weak, lifeless look, and make it hard to manage. Brushing the hair every day and shampooing it every week, ten days or two weeks, will help to put and keep high-light sheen. It's so easy to put off care of the hair. But because even daily care may require weeks before the hair responds, it's advisable to keep up the good work . . . daily brushing and frequent shampoos. Experts on hair and scalp care all agree that it is easier to prevent unattractive hair than it is to overcome it.

Practically every shampoo available is excellent. While it is true that one may prefer one type of shampoo to another, it is equally true that when used as directed, almost every shampoo on the market does a thorough job.

**B**RUSHING the hair each day helps remove lint and soil which dulls the hair. Between shampoos, especially if the hair appears soiled, and

more especially if your hair requires setting, you may use the well-beaten white of an egg as cleanser and waving aid. First brush the hair well. Then part the hair and, using a toothbrush, brush on a little of the frothy egg white. Then make another part and repeat the application of egg white. Continue in this manner until every hair has been gone over. Next, part your hair in its usual place, arrange the waves and secure end curls in place. Put on a net and let the hair dry thoroughly. Then remove net and hairpins and brush the hair well, using a clean brush. Now use the comb for pushing waves into place and making end curls. It is very important, let me repeat, that the egg white be permitted to dry thoroughly before any attempt is made to brush it from the hair.

To give the hair a dry shampoo, obtain a small amount of orris root from your druggist and dust it over your hair. Then use your fingers for distributing it through your hair. Let it remain a few minutes to allow time for it to absorb some of the oil, then use a clean, dry brush for brushing it from your hair. If you're a blonde, so much the easier, but if your hair is dark, it will require thorough and vigorous brushing to remove every particle of the cleanser. Finally use a bath towel, rubbing it vigorously over your hair to take up any remaining cleanser. Use either cleansing method if, for one reason or another, you cannot use water and your regular shampoo.

**I**F you're eating too many heavy sweet, greasy or starchy foods, then there is nothing to do about it but to restrict your portions until fresh vegetables and fruits are more plentiful. Chances are you could cut food portions in half and be all the better for it, both in health and good looks.

If you've been sitting too long at your evening tasks of sewing, mending, etc., and your back and waistline likely feel all done in. Try this: Get into bed and place a medium-sized pillow under the lower end of your spine. Bunch the pillow together, if necessary, to make a firm roll. Lie on this with your back arched over the pillow, and notice how your ribs seem to be separated and the muscles through the middle of your body stretch and relax. Lie on your stomach, then on either side, and notice how unbelievably restful it is. If shoulders feel especially weary, place the pillow just under them with your head resting on the mattress off of the pillow. Notice how this position rests shoulders and arms. It is particularly relaxing to tense nerves and muscles at the nape of the neck. Good posture and complete relaxation during sleeping hours encourage better posture and improved carriage when awake.

Don't let cold weather and its accompanying inconveniences deprive you of your usual beauty schedule. Substitute other steps that bring attractiveness to complexion, hair, hands and posture and be ready to look your loveliest all through summer.

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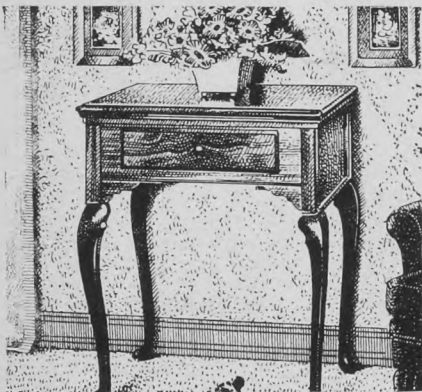
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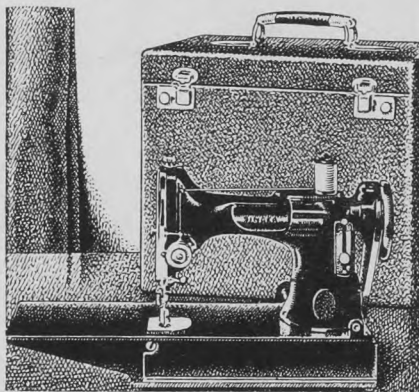
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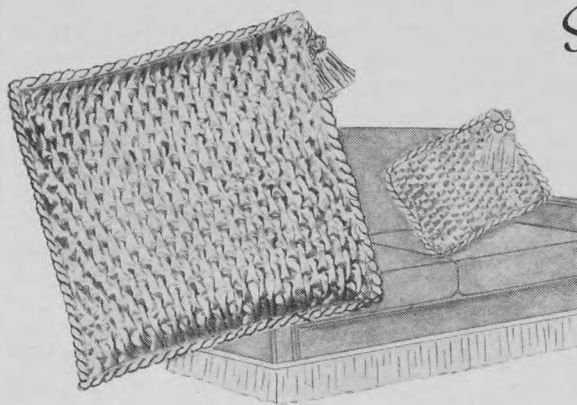
New ideas in needlework to brighten your home

by FLORENCE WEBB

### Smocked Cushion

Design No. 843.

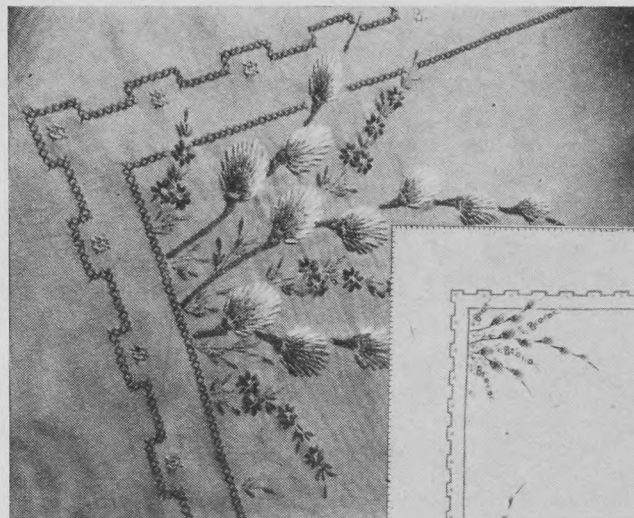
Here is another version of the very popular and professional-looking smocked cushion. We send you the cotton backing stamped with dots for smocking and full instructions for working it. Over the cotton you place satin in any color you prefer. The result



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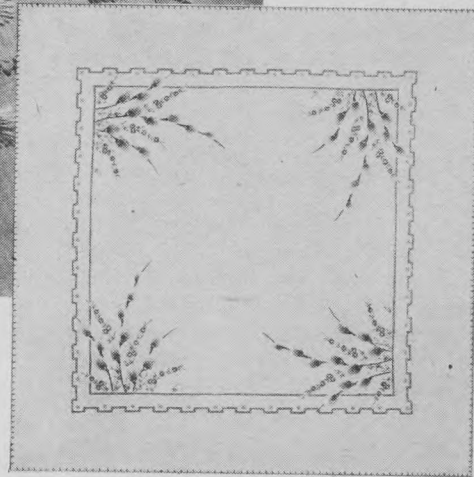
### Pussy Willow Cloth

Design No. 847.



A breath of spring brought right into your home with this luncheon cloth. The pussy willows are worked in single stitches of varying colors, stems are satin stitch, flowers are lazy daisy stitch and the border

is worked in cross-stitching. Set includes a 36-inch tablecloth and four matching napkins, 12 inches by 12 inches (not illustrated). Stamped on cream Irish linen it is \$2.75 complete. On good quality white linene Design No. 847 is \$1.50 complete. Threads are 40 cents extra.



### Zig-Zag Shopping Bag

Design No. C-344.

A gay companion for your shopping or to hold your needlework. Make it in three shades of the same color or brighten your spring wardrobe with three separate colors. Either way you will find it a useful addition to your parcel-carrying trips. Design is No. C-344. Price 20 cents; complete with pole handles price is 55 cents.



### Two-Needle Gloves

Design No. K-118.

It is difficult to believe that these attractive, serviceable gloves are made on only two needles. It is a new idea and much easier than the regulation four-needle gloves. Make them in pastels for dress-up occasions or in darker tones for everyday wear. Pattern includes small (about 6), medium (about 6½) and large (about 7) sizes. Design is No. K-118. Price 20 cents.

Address orders for Needlework to Country Guide Needlework, Winnipeg, Man.



# Wash-Day Robbers

*Culprits that damage fine fabrics*

by MARGARET M. SPEECHLY

**W**EEK by week, certain things deprive fabrics of their beauty and shorten their lives. Friction is one of these robbers. Sturdy cottons and linens can stand a good deal of rubbing, but friction of any sort is ruination to wool, silk, rayon and synthetic fibres, especially when they are wet.

Therefore, you will be money in pocket if you check your laundry methods and equipment to see that friction is reduced to the limit. Compared with the tools your mother used, a good washing machine costs a lot of money, but it is a real economy if it removes dirt with the least possible friction.

If you suspect that the action of your machine is too harsh for sensitive fibres, it will pay you to do your fine woollen underwear, the baby's woolies, silk garments and socks and stockings in a tub. Use a hand plunger to draw the suds through the meshes which will remove dirt effectively with very little friction.

If you decide to use the washer, do not run it for more than three minutes and be sure that the temperature is only lukewarm. In any case, help your equipment to do a good job by preventing garments from becoming over-soiled.

A good machine can handle surface dirt easily, but once it has become ingrained, rubbing may be necessary to dislodge it. Frequent changing of clothing is a real economy because it prevents fabrics from becoming loaded with dust, grime and perspiration or a combination of all three.

When you rub wet woollens this is what happens. The tiny wool fibres that make up the yarns are softened by warm water so that they become very tender. In this condition, friction of any kind causes them to contract permanently. Instead of being springy and elastic, the garment becomes matted and board-like, and because it has shrunk it wears into holes at toes or heels, or at points where there is strain.

In our climate, shrunken garments are a dead loss, since they no longer have the ability to keep you warm. Wool is warm because its kinky, elastic fibres are excellent for holding air in minute pockets throughout the fabric. This forms an insulating layer which conserves body heat. Once shrinkage has occurred, the tiny pockets close up and the garment fails to keep you warm.

Silk, rayon and synthetic fibres also are injured by rubbing, especially when wet. Harsh methods cause them to become roughened and weakened and to lose their sheen and lustre for which they are highly valued. If washed too long or too hard there is a tendency for the yarns to shift out of place and to make the weave irregular. When washing mixtures of fibres such as cotton and rayon, follow the safest methods for the more delicate fibre.

**I**N removing water from fine fabrics, squeeze gently, since wringing or twisting can strain or even snap the yarns. A good wringer properly used is far safer than hand-wringing. Put the articles through evenly, not in lumps or bunches, and make sure that

each piece is free from the rest.

Take time to turn in buttons and fold several layers of fabric over them. Many fancy buttons have sharp edges that either cut the yarns or seriously weaken them, with the result that holes suddenly appear. It is safer and cheaper to remove buttons before washing if there is any chance of their damaging the garments.

Very few fabrics go to pieces all at once. Wear is something that goes on gradually, almost invisibly. Even the water used for washing, if it is alkali or very hard, contributes to the breakdown of the yarns.

You may regard hard water as a nuisance or a burden, but actually it is a robber. The minerals it picks up as it stands in the cistern or travels through the soil, combine with soap to form curds which attach themselves to the meshes of garments and gradually cause their breakdown.

That is one reason why even moderately hard water should be softened before any soap is added, but it must be done properly or an excess of softener will attack animal or synthetic fibres and weaken them seriously. Certain alkalies even cause cotton and linen fibres to become brittle.

**H**ARSH soaps and many washing powders contain surplus alkali that take a serious toll of textiles by reducing the strength of the yarns and dimming their colors. For delicate materials it is an economy to use only the best quality of flakes.

For general purpose laundering there is unfortunately nothing on the wrapper or package to indicate whether a soap product will treat your clothes kindly. Even the price is no indication of how much real soap it contains, since there is very little difference in cost from brand to brand. Until the public demand some statement of what each product contains, money will be lost week by week.

You may wonder whether it is safe to use a bleach. An occasional treatment with a chlorine bleach helps to keep cottons and linens a good color, but to be safe it must be properly used. Follow the manufacturer's directions to the dot.

Measure the bleach as carefully as you would the ingredients for an angel cake, and that means measuring the water too. Stir well before putting in the clothes and do not leave them in for more than a few minutes. Remember that the bleaching action is more intense when the water is hot or even warm.

Rinse thoroughly if you want to avoid damaging the yarns. Nothing less than three rinses is enough to get rid of the chemical. If you are short of water do not consider using a bleach at all since even tiny amounts remaining in the meshes gradually destroy the cloth. Never use a chlorine bleach for articles made of wool, silk, rayon or synthetic fibres.

Considering the cost of clothing, it pays to protect it at every turn from the things that can shorten its life and rob it of its new appearance. By studying the fine points in laundering, you can prolong its service and reduce the amount of repairing to be done.



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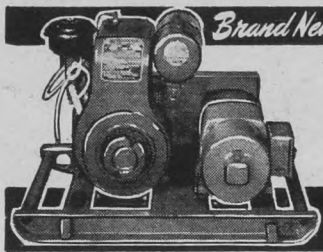
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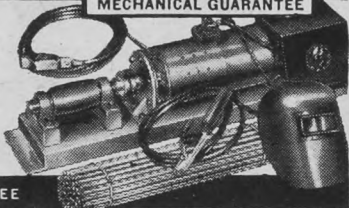
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## Farm Policy

Continued from page 7

influence the price level. Indeed, his whole instinct, derived from the nature of his business, is to keep on producing year after year, according to his own capacity and that of his land.

IN Canada, it is probably true that the price received for 80 or 90 per cent of our total farm production is normally influenced by the prices we secure for the 25 to 40 per cent which we annually export. Canada has very large areas of agricultural land. As a natural resource it is desirable to use this land as fully as possible. To the extent that it is advantageous to develop a large and favorable export trade with other countries, this effect of export prices on the Canadian farm economy may become very significant in the economy of Canada as a whole.

One of the serious disabilities of agriculture in our modern world is that the farmer cannot conduct his business in vast urban centres as can the manufacturers and those who engage in trade, commerce, finance and communications. He must, if he is to operate with economic units of land and other resources, push himself farther and farther away from his neighbors as his size of farm increases. This tendency substantially increases

his costs for education, roads, health services, and other necessities and amenities. One result of this condition is that the average level of education in rural areas is lower than in urban areas, which, in a democracy, averages out as a serious additional disadvantage.

Politically, agriculture is a minority group, represented in parliament to a very large extent by lawyers, doctors and business people. Perhaps, this circumstance accounts partly for the fact that throughout Canadian history agriculture has been used to serve the needs of other occupations. In balance this has been done to a much greater extent than, say, manufacturing, banking or the professions have been used to benefit agriculture. This is true despite the fact, now coming to be recognized, that the farm has been and still is the source of new blood for urban centres; and the additional fact that an abundance of good food is a much more important factor in preserving goodwill in and out of Canada, than we have been accustomed to believe.

If we need to refresh our memories as to how agriculture has been used to serve national purposes, we need only remember the embargoes of three years ago. These cut Canadian farmers off from all other markets, except the British market. They virtually tied the prices of our major farm products to

(Turn to page 74)

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No. 1611—The Tunic Look, a feminine little frock which achieves a slim, straight silhouette. Sheer fabric, either rayon or woollen, does it most justice. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years; 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust. Size 16 (34) requires 4 yards 39-inch material. Price 35 cents.



No. 623—Chameleon dress for junior miss, designed to change mood as you vary your accessories. A useful, modern wardrobe item. Size 13 (31) requires 3¾ yards 39-inch fabric. Sizes 11, 13, 15, 17 and 19 years; 31, 33, 35 and 37 inches bust. Price 25 cents.

No. 609—Dolman sleeved gown, made to suit your fancy. Allows a choice of detail so you may be smart and still express your individuality. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years; 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust. Size 16 requires 4¼ yards 39-inch fabric. Price 35 cents.

No. 625—Jiffy dress on easy-to-make lines and easy to get in and out of. Small figures like it in large window-pane check. Sizes 11, 13, 15, 17 and 19 years; 31, 33, 35 and 37 inches bust. Size 13 (31) requires 4 yards 35-inch fabric. Price 25 cents.

No. 610—Two-piecer with triple charm points—softly draped blouse—full skirt—and a taut midriff. Sizes 11, 13, 15, 17 and 19 years; 33, 35 and 37 inches bust. Size 13 (31) requires 1½ yards 35-inch fabric for blouse, 3¾ yards 35-inch fabric for skirt. Price 35 cents.

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the price which Britain was willing to pay her own wheat producers. At the same time the government compelled western wheat growers to subsidize all non-farm consumers of bread, in order to keep down the cost of living in urban centres. This, in turn, helped to hold back wage increases and strikes, which would have been embarrassing to industry and therefore disadvantageous to the development of trade generally. The procedure was a deliberate and calculated unfairness to agriculture in the interests of a national price-control policy. By the same token, no Canadian manufacturer of farm machinery, or pulp and paper, or any producer of raw metals, would have accepted gratitude in lieu of cash, as the Canadian wheat producer has accepted it in the case of the Canada-U.K. Wheat Agreement. Nor would any government have dared ask them to do so.

Under the spur of the thirties and of the war years, Canada has collected an assemblage of legislative bits and pieces relating to agriculture. What we have done is to adopt one expedient after another. We have set up no economic and social goal with respect to agriculture. Parliament has bowed to the convenience of its cabinet ministers, who seem reluctant to concentrate on the development of a stated farm policy, and prefer to rely on the uncertain virtues of patching and repair. The prime purpose of this article is to suggest that the time has arrived when a framework of Canadian farm policy should be erected by parliament, even if the details cannot be all filled in now.

That framework should be founded on the principle of full parity for agriculture, as compared with other segments of the economy. This does not mean parity of prices, since the hope of achieving full parity for agriculture by means of price parities is a delusion and a snare. The prime function of price is to guide production into the most desirable channels, and it is of first importance to this extent.

The principle of price supports is sound, even in Canada, though we dare not make the mistake of putting them too high. We should avoid production controls as far as possible. These have become a virtual necessity in the United States, where price supports have been maintained at a very high level. In Canada, if the farm organizations and the provincial and federal departments of agriculture possess the courage of their convictions, we can probably persuade farmers to produce more or less in accordance with demand and thus avoid the evils and injustices of authoritarian directives.

FULL parity for agriculture, as a principle, does not necessarily imply immediate attainment of the objective. It does mean a consistent and announced effort in this direction. It does mean program direction. It necessitates a constant evaluation of the central problem. It probably means floor prices for all major farm products, placed at as high a level as the Treasury can reasonably and safely permit. It is only fair to the farmer that these floors should be announced well in advance, and as a percentage of a carefully calculated prices-received-prices-paid formula.

Parity means, with respect to the marketing of farm products for so complex an industry as agriculture, not only fair floor prices for specified products, but supplemental remedies with which to meet unforeseen and occasional developments. At the present time we have a medicine chest of such remedies in the Agricultural Prices Support Act, but we have no plan. This, parliament understandably, but unfortunately, seeks to avoid.

Full parity for agriculture means getting the problem into proper perspective, and necessitates the segregation of a considerable body of families, grouped statistically as farmers, who contribute little if anything to the market. These, to the extent that they present a problem for government, are a social rather than a farm problem. In the United States, this group is largely the responsibility of a special agency of government, known as the Farmer's Home Administration. There, the problem is very severe and of long standing, and is concentrated principally in the south.

Another group who should be considered more or less apart from the producer of marketable products, are the part-time farmers. They often have full-time jobs in town, and rate as farmers solely because they live on the minimum acreage of land designated as a farm by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Canadian agriculture cannot achieve full parity with other occupations for a considerable time, even with the best of co-operation from parliament. No industry can exist on a satisfactory basis unless it can meet current costs of production, including interest on investment and depreciation and, in addition, provide something for the owner. In agriculture this means, also, sufficient returns to maintain soil fertility.

A constant supply of new experimental and research information is likewise essential today as never before, for the farmer is as dependent on research as any industrial magnate. He cannot maintain a research laboratory himself. Also, full parity for agriculture means federal aid to education. It means adequate credit facilities, rural health services, rural electrification and a much more generous development of all-weather roads. All of these are required for full parity, and price alone will not suffice.

Some of these needs, of course, are within the jurisdiction of the provinces, but in the prairie provinces in particular, and probably in the maritime provinces also, it is not financially possible to achieve all of these things unaided, owing to their relatively sparse populations. The Dominion Government made a belated, but nevertheless very excellent start on land use and water development in the prairie provinces, when the P.F.R.A. was established in 1935. Some of the provinces have already initiated progressive programs in health, education and rural electrification.

ALL of these represent the many facets of the farm problem. It is perhaps true that a majority of those who do not live on farms in Canada are not very sympathetic to the needs of agriculture. This, however, is principally because they do not understand

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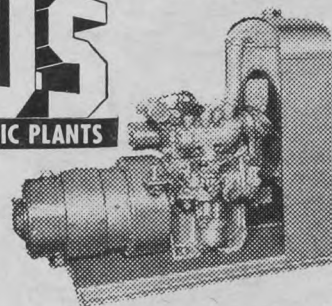
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its special problems. Today, the farm problem is further accentuated, because the farmer is on a cash basis as never before. He has to buy implements and power equipment now, instead of raising horses and turning them out to grass or the straw stack when they are not needed. He buys gasoline and oil, instead of raising oats for his work stock. His equipment carries heavier interest and depreciation charges. He needs stability of prices. More than ever before, he needs a feeling of security in a world of uncertainties, at least to the extent of knowing that there is a definite program pointed in his direction and designed to keep agriculture as nearly as possible on an even keel with other industries and occupations.

The Agricultural Products Co-operative Marketing Act, The Agricultural Products Marketing Act, The Agricultural Products Act, The Wheat Co-operative Marketing Act, The Canadian Wheat Board Act, The Agricultural Prices Support Act, The Prairie Farm Assistance Act, The Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act and The Farm Improvement Loan Act are the fragments of legislative action which parliament has thrown off from time to time. These it should now gather up and reshuffle, discard, amend, or improve, so as to fix a pat-

tern and establish a framework which would be re-assuring to farmers and at the same time provide a general directive to its executive, the cabinet.

The growth of urban industry has brought many benefits to the western world. Farming, however, is a more sedate and less demonstrative occupation than most others. Industry, trade and labor have blanketed the country with chambers of commerce, labor unions, trade associations and what not. They have demanded their pound of flesh in the form of fixed prices and wages, tariffs, pensions and other social guarantees—and have obtained them. The farmer has been less vocal, but why is it not equally proper that his special difficulties should be recognized by society? He operates freely in competition with all other farmers, and as efficiently, on the average, as do union members, merchants, business executives, clerks and urban dwellers generally. Is he not equally a human being, a citizen, an elector, a capitalist, a manager—and a producer? Does he not, year after year, work longer hours for less? Why need this continue to be so? It has gone on far too long, and parliament, which bears the final responsibility, should take steps to end it if Canada is really a democracy. A program of bits and pieces is not enough.

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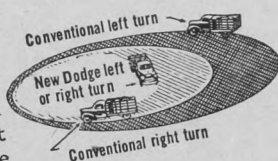
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# The Country



"A wise old owl sat on an oak,  
The more he heard, the less he spoke.  
The less he spoke, the more he heard,  
Why can't we all be like that bird?"

WHAT wise old birds are our friends the owls, those silent hunters of the woods. As hunters they have many advantages. Their hearing is very keen and they are able to hear the least rustle of a mouse at an unbelievable distance. With their soft coating of feathers these large birds can fly noiselessly through the woods after their prey. Then, too, an owl can adjust its wonderful eyes to see during day or night as a cat does. When you are sleeping these silent hunters patrol the woods and keep the fields free of rodents, and these birds usually work both summer and winter, after most of the other birds have gone South. When an owl has captured a mouse he bolts it down head first, then bowing his head and shaking it very hard he throws out the bones, claws, skin and fur in a grey matted pellet about two inches long. Perhaps you have found some of these pellets around straw stacks.

There are many kinds of owls: the barn owl, which is mottled in grey and white; the short-eared owl with its tufts of feathers which look like tiny horns; the screech owl, which is one of the smallest of the owl family; the great horned owl; the snowy owl, and many others. Our sketch is of the screech owl.

Perhaps the most interesting thing about owls is their large staring eyes which are set in the front of the face, not on the side of the head like a sparrow's, and that is why the owl turns its head to see objects on either side. Have you tried moving around a tree in which an owl was sitting to see if its head would snap off?

*Ann Sankey*

### The Valentine

by MARY E. GRANNAN

PETER PENNY was making valentines in the attic. He had a pot of glue, a pair of scissors, and many bits of colored paper. Beside him, too, was a box of crayons. He was very, very busy. It was almost St. Valentine's Day, and Peter knew that unless he hurried with his work, he would not have enough valentines to go around his class.

"I'd be finished by now," he said to himself, "if I hadn't taken so long in making Janey's valentine. But I wanted to give Janey the loveliest one of all. She is such a nice little girl." He picked up Janey's valentine and looked at it proudly. It was red and pink, and he had glued white lace to it very carefully, and he had printed, carefully too, these words:

"This valentine I've made for you,  
To tell you that I love you true."

He sighed happily. He knew Janey would be as pleased with the valentine as he was.

A little mouse had been watching him at work all the while. A little mouse, who had kept very still, waiting all the while until Peter went downstairs for lunch. At last Peter's mother called him. He answered: "Yes, mum, I'll be right down. I hope you have something good for dinner, because I'm starving."

When the little mouse heard Peter's scampering footsteps fade in the hallway below, he came out into the attic room. He looked the valentines over.

"I've got to get the very prettiest one of all for Merry Mouse. Merry is my sweetheart, and she will expect a pretty valentine from me." The little mouse chuckled, "It's lucky for me," he laughed to himself, "that Peter made his valentines in the attic. Oh!" he squealed suddenly. His eyes had fallen on Janey's valentine. "This is

the prettiest one! I wonder what it says inside."

He opened it and read it.

He flicked his tail happily. The words were just right for Merry Mouse. He took the lovely valentine between his teeth and pulled it to the little hole under the window seat. He backed into the hole. But the valentine refused to follow. It was too big. The little mouse pulled and pulled. The paper lace was beginning to crumple, but the cardboard held solid, and would not go through the hole. Little Mouse was working so hard to get it through, that he did not hear Peter coming back to the attic. Peter missed Janey's valentine right away.

"Where's Janey's valentine?" he cried. "It was here when I went downstairs, and no one has been up here." And then he heard Little Mouse puffing and panting by the window seat.

"So, it was you!" he cried. "You're the one who took my valentine for Janey."

"Please let me have it," sobbed Little Mouse. "I can't make valentines, and I want one for Merry Mouse. I love her so much, and the words you have printed on this valentine are just right. I love Merry."

Peter couldn't help laughing. Little Mouse did look so funny. "Little Mouse," he said, "I can't give you this valentine. I made it especially for Janey, and anyway, you'd never get it through that mouse hole. I'll tell you what I'll do. I'll make a real beautiful valentine for a mouse. You just wait here."

Peter dashed downstairs again and into the pantry. He cut a great slice of cheese from the roll, and picking up a paring knife, he ran back to the attic. The little mouse wiggled his whiskers when he smelled the cheese.

"Now you sit right there, Little Mouse, and I'll cut a cheese heart from this cheese. You can have the scraps that drop off." Peter cut a

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# Boy and Girl

beautiful heart from the slice. "And now," Peter said, "I'll print a note for Merry with the point of the knife."

He cut these words into the cheese carefully,

"To my valentine.

Listen to me if you please,

I love you like a chunk of cheese.

From—guess who!"

Little Mouse managed to get his valentine through the mousehole. On St. Valentine's Day there were four very happy little beings, Peter Penny and Janey, Little Mouse and Merry.

P.S.—Merry ate her valentine! Janey didn't!

## Be A Welcome Guest

SOON you will be "asked out" again to the home of one of your friends. Of course it will be your aim to be a welcome guest, so it's a good idea to brush up on the rules of the game before you go. They are few enough and simple enough, but you can't afford to ignore them.

First, be easy to please. Remember every household has a different way of doing things. Part of the fun of visiting is experiencing this change. Fit in. If asked what you like to eat or what you prefer to do best, be honest with your reply. Otherwise, make the best of things as you find them.

Next, be easy to entertain. One secret of the art of visiting is to help your friends make you feel at home. Take an interest in every member of the family, even the cat. Enter enthusiastically into all games and stunts.

And help out. That's important. If there is anything you can do to contribute to the good time of all, do it. If you can sing, play, or recite, don't have to be coaxed into performing. Remember too, your visit will create extra work for somebody. Offer to help out with what has to be done but avoid forcing your will on your friends. If you are on a long visit don't make yourself a bore by expecting to be entertained all the time. Stay in your room occasionally, or go out for a stroll and give your friends a breathing space without you.

Above all, be yourself. You should neither put on airs nor act overly shy. It is very difficult to entertain any person who seems to be backward in coming forward. On the other hand, people who assume too much are never popular. After the first strangeness has worn off and you are told to make yourself at home, don't make yourself too much at home.

Show your thanks. You may be able to make some return for the hospitality you have enjoyed by offering to take your friends to a picture show, or by sharing liberally such things as your bicycle, camera, or tennis racket. When out on a long visit of several days it is proper to take a small gift for your hostess, or you may leave the matter of a gift until you return home. In any case, the least you can do is write a letter of thanks for the pleasant time you have had. This must be done within a few days after completion of your visit.

Finally, be a good sport. This is the most important rule in the book of

visiting manners. Never appear bored with the service or entertainment you get in a friend's home. After all, it must be the best they can give. Accept it as such and make them feel happy. Play the game.

Avoid mentioning to others any shortcomings of the home after you have left it. Learn to value good sincere friendship above high living standards. You enter a friend's home on trust. Tell only of the good times you had. Kindly consideration is one of the few things in the world that costs nothing and still is priceless.—Walter King.

## Honoring Raggety Ann

TAKE your choice of either of the two beloved Raggety Ann or Andy dolls you want to adopt as the theme of your party. Or use both, since most every kid-party involves both boys and girls.

Of one thing you may be sure—a party built around these floppy toys will be a sure-fire success. Tell the youngsters to bring their Raggety Anns or Raggety Andys, and to come dressed as near like one of the dolls as possible. You'll have quite a Raggety Convention then, and the children will love it if you take their pictures. This is a good theme for a birthday party.

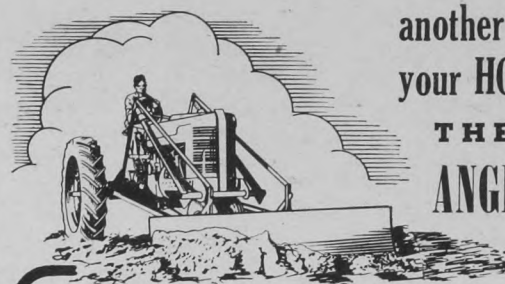
The party menu—preferably served at supper time—might be a Raggety Ann salad, latticed or creamed potatoes, ice cream and cake. The salad is gorgeous and should centre the children's plates when they come to the table . . . the table centred with three or four Raggety Anns or Andys leaning against each other on a mirror plaque.

Raggety Ann's body is a tomato half (cut side down) with buttons and collar of yellow mayonnaise. Skirt is curly lettuce with stem end at waist, and the skirt billowing over a mound of salmon, tuna, or potato salad. Two small pickle feet, celery arms with leaves at the hand-end and a face of hard-cooked egg, flat side down and flaunting sweet pickle eyes, pimento nose and mouth will give a realistic effect. The hair is important, so shred raw carrots finely and arrange as the doll's hair usually is—"three sheets to the wind!"

If the party is a birthday affair, the most suitable gift would be the Raggety Ann book that the birthday child likes best. The child may receive it early in the day and then at the strategic time, the stories may be read to the group.—Louise Price Bell.

## For Lazy Muscles

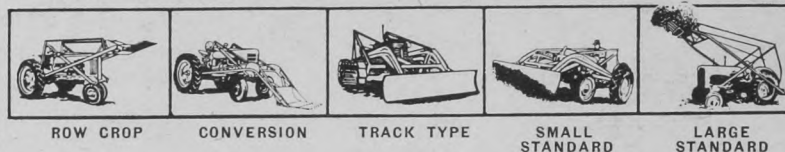
Try some simple stretching exercises to help you feel like getting up, when you waken in the morning. First stretch in a lazy way and then do them briskly. Suddenly you are wide awake! Take a deep breath before starting any routine. Every muscle is held taut as you inhale deeply. Stretching stimulates and relaxes at the same time. It wakens dormant muscles and loosens stiff joints. Next time you want to limber up, just take a stretch.



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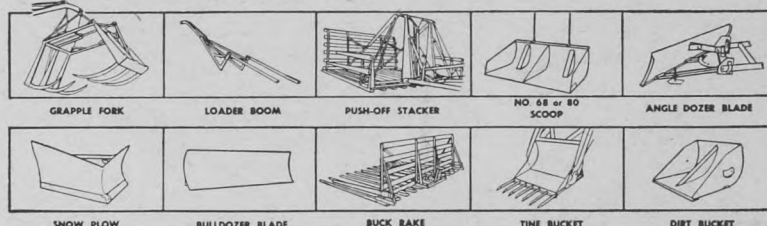
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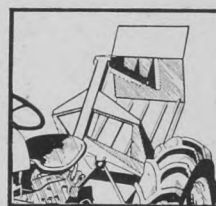


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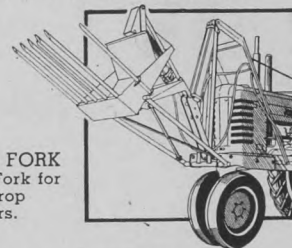
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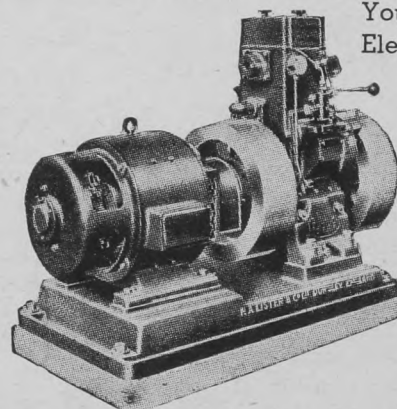
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VOL. LXIX WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY, 1950 No. 2

## An Even Pull

A common remark one hears nowadays in towns and cities runs something like this: "It is a good thing eggs and bacon have come down in price. Farmers were asking too much and things were getting so that people couldn't afford to buy."

Such a statement discloses a profound ignorance of some basic facts, and city newspapers owe it to their readers to do some educational work to bring these facts home to their readers.

It is perfectly true that eggs reached a level that was too high, although the 85 cents a dozen charged by city retail stores for a short period bears no relation to the average price received by poultrymen for the year's output. Nobody was more critical of that peak price than the egg producers, who knew that, in the end, it would react against them.

It is also true that the farmer who has had products to sell has done well over the last half dozen years. But it is wholly fallacious to think that agriculture as a whole has done better, or even as well, as other sections of the community. The Bank of Canada report shows that 663 of the leading Canadian companies provided a return of 13.9 per cent on their net worth in 1948, and the 1949 figure is expected to be equally good. If one could reduce to one common denominator the gains which labor has made in the last 25 years in increased wages, shorter hours, paid holidays, sick benefits and pension schemes, there can be no doubt that it has improved its position vastly more than farm workers have. Dr. E. C. Hope, economist for the C.F.A., declares that, using the 1925-29 base, the farmer's parity income for 1949 was exactly 100, if one subtracts the deferred Wheat Board payments which were really earned in previous years.

The outlook for agriculture in the coming year is distinctly less favorable. The new floor price for cheese is just a little more than 90 per cent of parity, and that for bacon a little less. The stop-loss price on eggs is considerably below that figure. Farmers as a whole realize that as export prices govern the price level of most of the major commodities, it will be difficult to maintain the 1949 farm income level. Most of them will agree that the whole Canadian economy may be geared down a little and still get along, if the contraction occurs right across the board. But they are greatly disturbed by the drive for increased wages and continued high profits for industry. Certain classes of railway labor are even now clamoring for another wage boost. If it is conceded, it will inevitably lead to a further rise in freight rates, adding to the burden of that section of the community which never did attain the same relative degree of economic advance, and which has already lost a portion of its income in the current price decline.

In the name of common sense and good understanding, the newspapers which reach urban readers should give wide publicity to these facts, so that a halt may be called to the insensate demands at this stage, for higher wages and profits. If they do not lay this task upon themselves, and agriculture has to face new cuts, with no corresponding contractions elsewhere, its weakened position will soon be manifested in curtailed farm purchasing and mounting industrial unemployment. If ever there was a time when honest examination and prompt action could check a downward spiral, it is now.

## Support Prices

Probably there is no more explosive subject under discussion among farmers today than the extent to which price supports should be used to bolster markets for those products which have slumped so

heavily during the last two months. Following the announcement that Britain would take no eggs in 1950, the farm price of eggs dropped from 25 to 50 per cent, depending on location and grade. The cheese contract price dropped from 30 cents to 25 cents and it was only after lengthy negotiations that a bacon contract was negotiated for 29 cents as against last year's price of 36 cents. Nothing was done to put a floor price under eggs until the market was completely demoralized, and the support price of 38 cents, then announced, is regarded by eastern poultrymen as utterly inadequate. All over Ontario, the major bacon-producing province, heated public meetings are being held, protesting against the low support price of 32½ cents on bacon. Cheesemen have made it clear that no floor price below last year's contract figure will satisfy them.

Non-agricultural opinion is opposed to the principle of floor prices. It has one sovereign remedy for regulating agricultural production and determining prices—the untempered winds of supply and demand, regardless of the havoc that sharp price reversals have upon the producer. Hog growers are being told that they are foolish to expect a floor price as high as the highest they ever obtained under the previous contracts; that it is no use for them to argue that their costs of the 1949-50 crop of pigs are higher than they have ever been, because any argument based on cost of production can be too easily defeated. Producers of every commodity are being told that floor prices encourage the production of surpluses which only prolong their agony. It is being pointed out to growers of export commodities that a two-price system, a high, supported domestic price, and a lower price for the exported portion, transgresses Canada's commitments under I.T.O., about which we ought to be very careful lest we open a door through which the United States can dump heavier surpluses.

Nevertheless, there are good and sufficient reasons why generous support prices should be paid for limited periods, to enable growers to adjust themselves to lower levels of production and price, which they had no means of foreseeing. The degree of support should be high enough to prevent crippling farm losses, and it should be continued from time to time, perhaps at a diminishing rate, as farmers adjust themselves to changed market conditions.

Farmers do not have to be sensitive about asking for this degree of protection. Since the days of Sir John A. Macdonald they have contributed their share to the protection of industry on a scale far exceeding what they are likely to ask for today. Seventy-five years of tariff support has been 75 years of support price for the manufacturers of Canada. What is sauce for the Gander is sauce for the Goose. Canadian prosperity can continue on one condition only, that no large section of the economy be allowed to suffer unduly. General approval for bold application of the Prices Support Act would be wise policy for the non-agricultural elements in this country.

## Economic Nationalism Again?

In what is recognized as a most searching and courageous analysis of the current farm marketing situation, Prof. J. K. Galbraith, a former Canadian who is now Professor of Economics at Harvard, threw buckets of cold water on his audience at the C.F.A. Annual Meeting in Niagara Falls. He characterized as "our common illusion," the belief that in restoring the present unbalance of international trade we shall re-establish the flow of food and feed stuffs from the North American continent to Europe through the ordinary channels of trade. He believes that Canada and the United States have priced themselves out of the European market and thereby encouraged the great measure of self-sufficiency in food supply, which Britain and her neighbors are striving to attain. The effects, he believes, will not be total exclusion from those markets, but a persistent decline in our sales to that part of the world.

Dr. Galbraith offers two avenues of hope, and only two. The first is that farmers in Canada and the United States will sell their commodities at

prices more attractive to impoverished buyers. The second is that people in both North American countries will expand their purchases of British goods.

The first recommendation is very unpalatable medicine for farmers in this country to take, but Dr. Galbraith has some undeniable evidence to support his case. We have been told time and time again that the sterling area was building up a high-cost economy within itself, and yet when it comes to arranging food contracts for Canada, Mr. Gardiner was bluntly told that some of the commodities he wanted to sell could be bought elsewhere for less. Dr. Galbraith did not specify which commodities had been priced too high. We do not think he meant wheat. Indeed, he did say that Canada might be in a better position than the United States because it had shown more restraint in pricing its food products.

His other recommendation is neither new nor debatable. Anyone who believes that Canada can continue to sell food and feeding stuffs to Trans-Atlantic nations, without accepting imports on a scale that will arouse determined resistance in this country, is deluding himself. Leaders of agriculture must be on the lookout for obstacles to an import policy, and the rank and file of Canadians must play their part in accepting new patterns and models and help to make such goods more easily salable in Canada.

## Monopolistic Practices

The shadow of F. A. McGregor is a long one. Although he is no longer Combines investigator, three reports completed before his resignation have found their way to the public eye. They allege infractions of the law on the part of the flour, flat glass, and wooden match industries. From the United States comes a charge laid by Emmanuel Celler, a Democratic congressman who is chairman of the powerful judicial committee at Washington, that three named Canadian newsprint companies are guilty of monopolistic practices. Prosecutions have already been commenced on some of the McGregor charges. The American investigators cannot, of course, compel the Canadian paper companies to give evidence. They have, however, invited them to do so, and should they decline, the presumption of guilt will be against them.

Comment on these charges vary. An editorial writer in a very respectable Canadian financial journal takes the position that Mr. McGregor's work reveals more than anything else the need for revising the Combines Investigation Act. The writer wants to take the initiative out of the hands of a civil servant, even though that servant's integrity be as unimpeachable as Mr. McGregor's. He would place the work now entrusted by the Act to a single commissioner, into the hands of a minister or a judicial body. It matters nothing to him that a minister's decision might be colored by political considerations, nor that multiple commissions are not renowned for their vigor or tenacity in investigating big business. While he does not say so, this commentator leaves the impression that he would like to see the Act amended in the way it was done by the late Lord Bennett—to have all its teeth drawn.

This view will not commend itself to farm people. Their record on monopolistic practices is clear. They spoke in no uncertain way about it in the middle twenties when a court decision led to the breaking up of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association. Since that defeat the forces of monopoly have regained some ground. The case for alert policing of trade practices, and of vigorous prosecution of illegal combinations in restraint of trade, is stronger than ever. Without any allusion to the cases now under review, it may be said that price fixing by government may be bad: price fixing by industry on a nation-wide scale, with no regard for consumers, nor indeed for its own ultimate good, is worse. Any changes in the Combines Investigation Act must be in the direction of strengthening it to provide consumers with a greater measure of protection.